



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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19 March 1991

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Indian Ocean Commission Summit Opens 16 Mar

LD1603164391 Paris Domestic Service
in French 0635 GMT 16 Mar 91

[Text] The first summit of heads of state and government of countries that are members of the Indian Ocean Committee opens in Antananarivo this morning. France is present in the committee through the island of Reunion and it will be represented by Prime Minister Michel Rocard. More details with Philippe Leymarie.

[Leymarie] The Indian Ocean Commission is comprised of Madagascar, the Comoros, the Seychelles, Mauritius, and Reunion—that is to say, around 15 million islanders, mostly French speakers. It is through Reunion, a French overseas department, that France has a coast on the Indian Ocean and is thus a member of this commission. One can witness a revival of cooperation between these Indian Ocean islands. For the time being, this cooperation is limited to fishery, air traffic, and tourism. For the first time, a summit is being held and it might, for instance, touch upon common defense projects, this at a time when South Africa, partly freed of its political complex, is starting a large outward offensive toward the countries of the region.

Another target for Michel Rocard is Reunion where riots at the beginning of the month claimed dozens of victims. The simple refusal by Paris to allow a private television channel, Free Dom, to carry its programs started four years ago, sparked riots by youngsters in the popular districts of Saint-Denis. On the island one expects the French prime minister to bring his solution to what appears to be a severe identity crisis.

Declaration Issued

LD1603230591 Paris International Service
in French 1830 GMT 16 Mar 91

[Text] At the summit of the Indian Ocean Commission in Madagascar, speaking before the heads of state and government of Mauritius, the Seychelles, the Comoros, and Madagascar, Michel Rocard—who is representing Reunion—was anxious to state that France does not harbor any ambition of exercising any kind of authoritative power over the organization. Our special correspondent Philippe Lesmaries gives an account of the day's proceedings.

[Lesmaries] This was the first time that the heads of state and government of the region have met. Their summit, in which French Prime Minister Michel Rocard took part as Reunion's representative, was in the end quite political. The final declaration, for example, expresses satisfaction over the liberation of Kuwait but it also demands that the Palestinian issue be dealt with rapidly. President Ratsiraka did not fail to note in passing all that could have been achieved in these islands in the south west of the Indian Ocean or elsewhere in Africa with the arms expenditure for a single day in the Gulf war. There was also some discussion about the mercenaries, a speciality of these islands

which have suffered a lot as a result of them, particularly the Seychelles and the Comoros.

The problem of Mayotte was also raised on the sidelines. Rocard explained that there are two logical points in this matter: Certainly, one must not cut a colony off, but one has to take into account the right of peoples, in this case those of Mayotte, to self-determination. And even though the situation remains awkward, there is no question of sending riot police or legionnaires to hand Mayotte bound hand and foot over to the Comoros, Mr Rocard said.

But prospects for more technical cooperation were raised at the Lavolona Palace in Antananarivo which was built for President Ratsiraka by the Koreans: A refinery for example, a cement factory, joint cardiology and oncological institutes, better coordination in transport, telecommunications, and tourism. There is much to do to organize a regional entity among these islands which are all Francophone but which have turned their backs on each other for a long time.

Further on Sub-Saharan Business Conference

Angolan Envoy Speaks

MB1603161691 Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS
in English 16 Mar 91 p 12

[Unattributed report: "Bill of Rights for Sub-Saharan Africa"]

[Excerpts] Mbabane—A Bill of Rights should be introduced in sub-Saharan Africa as part of greater regional cooperation, the Angolan ambassador to Namibia, Dr Alberto Ribeiro Kabulu, told an all important business conference in Swaziland this week.

"Presently, dramatic changes are taking place in Southern Africa which underscore the need to develop its human resources capabilities.

"If the region can solve its present conflicts, enormous energies, which are now been used for violence and destruction, will be released for economic human resources capabilities," Dr Ribeiro-Kabulu said in the Swazi capital, Mbabane.

Calling for a regional Bill of Rights, he said it should form part of a regional security arrangement, aimed at reducing the threat of military and other conflicts.

He emphasised through that he was speaking in a personal capacity, and not on behalf of the Angolan Government. [passage omitted]

Dr Ribeiro-Kabulu said that to change the present scenario in sub-Saharan Africa, freedom and respect for human rights of the individual were prerequisites to build a climate of peace and security, which was necessary for regional cooperation.

"Here again democracy is indispensable.

"Peace and regional security has to come first, to make possible economic cooperation," the Angola [as published] diplomat said.

"The solution of internal conflicts in Angola and Mozambique and of the apartheid problem in South Africa are necessary conditions for a lasting and equitable development of the subcontinent."

Dr Ribeirio added, "In other part of the world, people have seen the need for security arrangements, based on dialogue, mutual respect and equality, as a prerequisite for economic cooperation."

"He argued that the conference on security and cooperation in Europe was an interesting example, which could be followed in the region.

"Such a regional security arrangement can pave the way for a rapid integration of a democratic South Africa into the regional and sub-regional institutions of economic cooperation."

He warned though that military and economic imbalances between the countries of the region, and a recent past of conflict and hatred, would make difficult any arrangement for cooperation without appropriate measures of regional security.

"The main components of this arrangement could be:

- "Reduction of all military and para-military forces;
- "Confidence building through a policy of open doors, allowing (for) mutual inspections and verifications in order to eliminate suspicion;
- "A Bill of Rights for the region, providing for the elimination of racism and any form of discrimination, for democratic rule through free and fair elections, and a market economy;
- "Appropriate international guarantees; (and),
- "Equitable economic cooperation."

Dr Ribeiro-Kabulu added that governments and international and regional organisations were presently considering the "human factor" as the most important element of economic development.

"Business can be very well served by following the same policies."

He added: "Human resources in our region are still being diverted to conflict and destruction and are wasted, because they are not fully utilised.

"If human rights are respected, and basic needs satisfied, peace will come, and those who have been excluded from the process will be able to participate in the economy and create wealth, contributing a better life for all. Dr Ribeiro-Kabulu ended his address.

Conference Ends

MB1503161091 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 15 Mar 91

[Text] A conference of top business representatives from 17 African countries has ended in Mbabane, Swaziland, with an overwhelming call for greater economic cooperation in the sub-Saharan region.

The deputy president of the South African Chamber of Business, Mr. Hennie Viljoen, said in closing remarks that it was up to business leaders and not governments to forge new economic ties in the region, and to develop a sound regional development program

The director of Swaziland's African Business Corporation, Dr. Shishayi Nzumalo, said the Swazi prime minister, Mr. Obed Dlamini, was delighted that the delegation had achieved their objectives of exchanging information and investigating sub-Saharan development.

Dr. Nzumalo emphasized that most representatives were of the opinion that South Africa should join the existing economic organizations, such as the Preferential Trade Area and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, because of the changes that have occurred in South Africa.

Management Policy Approved for Air Afrique

AB1503224091 Dakar PANA in English 1809 GMT 15 Mar 91

[Text] Abidjan, 15 March (AIP/PANA)—A conference of transport ministers of countries which own Air Afrique met in Abidjan on Thursday and approved the application of a single personnel management policy in all its 10 owner-countries.

The meeting was summoned to approve the application of the new laws and regulations for ground and air staff in line with Yaounde Treaty which established the company to give it the force of law.

The texts had earlier been adopted by the board of directors of the company when they met in Niamey, Niger, on 19 December, 1990. Their harmonisation puts an end to the disparity in the treatment of the 40,000 employees of Air Afrique in the past 30 years.

The managing director of the multinational carrier, Yves Rolland-Billecart, said the measure formed part of a recovery plan which the management submitted to the heads of state of the owner-countries for approval during their meeting in Yamoussoukro, Cote D'Ivoire [Ivory Coast], on 28 February, 1989.

Thursday's conference was presided over by the Ivorian minister of equipment, transport and tourism, Adama Coulibaly. He expressed satisfaction with the quality of the regulations to streamline the conditions of service for the staff of Air Afrique.

Congo

Further Reportage on National Conference

Elects Opposition Officials

AB1503170691 Paris AFP in French 1608 GMT
14 Mar 91

[Text] Brazzaville, 14 Mar (AFP)—The three new vice chairpersons elected yesterday to the Presidium of the Congolese National Conference belong to groups opposed to Sassou Nguesso's regime, an official source disclosed yesterday afternoon in Brazzaville.

Mr. Stephane Bongho Mouarra, chairman of the Party for Reconstruction and Development in Congo; Mr. Simon Pierre, an independent delegate supported by the opposition; and Mrs. Julienne Ondziel, member of the Association of Women Jurists, were respectively elected second, third, and fourth vice chairpersons.

The first vice chairman was elected last Wednesday, 13 March, in the person of Mr. Antoine Letembet Ambily of the Movement for Democracy and Integral Development. Mgr. Ernest Kombo, chairman of the Presidium, was appointed last Tuesday, 12 March. Seven other members of the Presidium are expected to be elected tomorrow.

The (formerly sole ruling) Congolese Labor Party (PCT) is yet to succeed in having one of its representatives elected to this body, which will direct the deliberations of the national conference, which was convened to consider the country's political future. Soon after deliberations began on 25 February, the 1,100 delegates decided that this conference would be "sovereign" and that its decisions would be binding.

Some Presidium Members Elected

AB1503214291 Brazzaville Domestic Service
in French 1830 GMT 15 Mar 91

[Excerpt] The proceedings of the national conference have just been suspended. They will resume tomorrow at 0800. The participants will choose the other members of the national conference presidium, notably the rapporteur, the head of the Secretariat, and his deputy. Gilbert David Moutakara, you are one of our permanent correspondents at the Congress Palace. What transpired today?

[Begin Moutakara recording] Well, Gabriel Ouahi, people believed that all the members of the national conference presidium would be elected today. Unfortunately, that was not the case. The hard realities had something else in store for us. Indeed, right from the beginning of the proceedings this morning, the vote for the candidates to the different posts started quickly with the overwhelming election of Bernard Makaya as general rapporteur of the national conference.

But when it came to electing his deputy, the machine slowed down somehow, or let us say it was even blocked because the voting for the deputy general rapporteur was declared null and void. Neither Remy Bakou nor Mathieu Martial Kani were able to obtain the demanded two-thirds majority. On the other hand, Brigitte Yengo was elected treasurer of the national conference right at the first round of voting. Brigitte Yengo is a sister in Christ, as the saying goes. Noel Sousolo was also elected comptroller of the national conference. Elections for two other posts are to be held again, or better still, to be started afresh tomorrow. They are the posts of head of the secretariat and his deputy. For the head of the secretariat, the elections will involve Messrs. Matanga and Boukaka Ouadiabantou, while Leon Mbemba and Father Moundanga Vincent de Paul will vie for the post of head of the national conference secretariat.

Nevertheless, I must note, Adrien Ouahi, that many participants left the Congress Palace before the end of today's session. We do not really know why. Despite this, Congolese are expecting decisions from the national conference that will define the march of the Congolese people toward their well-being. The political leaders have made their policies in this regard and think that the national conference is a point of departure. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Opposition Wins Majority Seats

AB1603165091 Paris AFP in English 1634 GMT
16 Mar 91

[Text] Brazzaville, March 16 (AFP)—New opposition parties in the Congo have sidelined the formerly single, ruling Workers' Party (PCT) of President Denis Sassou-Nguesso at a crucial political gathering here.

In a secret ballot late Friday, an opposition front took seven of the 11 seats on the presidium chairing a national conference on the Congo's political future, which began on February 25. All four of the other seats went to non-political associations close to the opposition front, which groups about 50 of the 67 parties represented at the conference.

The government and the PCT have already lost a battle for sovereignty, since the conference has ruled that its decisions are binding and will be published in the official gazette and not by the head of state.

The PCT tried to counter the election of conference chairman Ernest Kombo by putting up former Foreign Minister David Charles Ganao as his first deputy, but Mr. Ganao was defeated in a second round of voting.

The rapporteur of the proceedings is a delegate from the single CSC trade union federation, Bernard Makaye.

The CSC was long close to the regime of General Sassou-Nguesso, who came to office in 1979, but in recent months it has backed demands to get the national debate under way and organized strikes over wages and conditions.

Conference proceedings continued on Saturday without television coverage because the journalists responsible suspended their work to demand daily pay for the job. A conference organizing committee made some 90 million CFA francs (335,000 dollars) available to cover the needs of the local press, but this sum was spent on purchasing equipment.

No PCT Members Elected to Presidium

AB1703141091 Libreville Africa No. 1
in French 1830 GMT 16 Mar 91

[Excerpts] The members of the presidium of the Brazzaville National Conference have been elected. Reporter (Jean-De-Dieu Donvodo) has more details:

[Begin (Donvodo) recording] The presidium is now complete. The last three posts were filled in this morning. The elections went well since two of the three candidates were elected through consensus. This 11-member team will be chaired by Monsignor Ernest Kombo, and will begin to function on 18 March. Their task will consist of setting up a conference secretariat in charge of taking notes on all statements and then briefing the presidium on them. They will also assist rapporteurs drawing up the conference report and minutes. They therefore have a very important role to play during the conference and have been chosen from among the opposition parties represented at the national conference including four from political parties, three from associations, and one from the nongovernmental organizations, the Congolese Trade Union Confederation, and the religious bodies, respectively. The conference secretariat is allowed to ask for the help of all experts or technicians it sees fit to join their ranks. They can therefore call on economists, jurists, administrative cadres, and typists of course! [end recording]

Now, let us listen to some people's reactions to the election of the presidium members. The first to talk to reporters was Yhombi-Opango:

[Begin Yhombi-Opango recording] I think that those who have been elected are competent and that is why they were chosen. [passage omitted] [end recording]

As for (Alphonse Ngonzia), member of the Political Bureau of the ruling Congolese Labor Party [PCT], he says that the nonrepresentativeness of his party within the Presidium is no cause for bitterness. [passage indistinct]

Chairman Addresses Participants

AB1803200891 Libreville Africa No. 1
in French 1230 GMT 18 Mar 91

[Text] The national conference continues in Brazzaville from where correspondent Jean de Dieu Ndongovono reports:

[Begin recording] [Ndongovono] After five days of necessary discussions, we are at the stage of frank and

respectful dialogue, according to Monsignor Ernest Nkombo, who [words indistinct] proceedings of the national conference. Earlier, the prelate asked the participants to observe a moment of silence in memory of the dead so that they could help the participants hold successful discussions. One of the memorable dead is Marien Ngouabi; the anniversary of his death is being celebrated today. President Ngouabi was assassinated on 18 March 1977 at 1430 to be exact. A 21-gun salute will be fired at this time while President Denis Sassou-Nguesso lays a wreath on the tomb of the one who is still called Marien or the Immortal.

After a moment of silence, Monsignor Nkombo addressed the participants, thanking them for choosing him and appealing to them to cooperate frankly. As you will hear, he defined this national conference as a school:

[Nkombo] This national conference is a school—a school of truth about ourselves, our limits, and our possibilities. This truth will make pardon possible and consolidate national reconciliation. It is also a school of pluralist democracy, without forgetting or alienating our own values such as respect for our elders. The national conference is also a school of good public moral conduct for everyone. We are going to convince ourselves of the uselessness of political assassinations, the obnoxiousness of embezzling public funds, and the uselessness of collective falsehood.

[Ndongovono] For Monsignor Nkombo, the national conference is also a laboratory, a clinic, a supermarket, and a cemetery where the Congolese people must bury all the bad habits of the past. He asked everyone to recognize his mistakes, ask for pardon, and accept the expiatory punishment for that is the cement of national unity. He concluded: God bless this national conference so the Republic lives long. [end recording]

Change in Meeting Hours

AB1803213691 Brazzaville Domestic Service
in French 1830 GMT 18 Mar 91

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Keep in mind that henceforth the the national conference proceedings will take place from 1100 to 1800 so some participants can exercise their professional activities. The other thing to remember is that posters of all Congolese heads of state from the country's independence will be displayed at the Congress Palace.

Tomorrow, the conference will continue hearing general messages, and then the national conference agenda will be elaborated. According to the rules, each delegation will be entitled to a 20-minute address.

CAR Community Calls for National Conference

AB1803214091 Paris AFP in French 1053 GMT
18 Mar 91

[Text] Brazzaville, 18 Mar (AFP)—The Central African Republic [CAR] community in Congo has called for

holding a national conference in CAR to debate democratic reforms in the country, a communique handed to AFP today in Brazzaville indicated. Martin Yamale, leader of the coordination committee of this community, signed the communique inviting CAR head of state General Andre Kolingba to declare general amnesty and rapidly restore "a multiparty system and individual and collective freedoms" in the country. The community asked President Kolingba to spare the "CAR people an end" similar to those of "Chad, Liberia, and Rwanda."

The CAR community does not believe that Friday's [15 March] appointment in Bangui of Edouard Frank as prime minister is a sign of radical change of autocratic dictatorship" of the CAR regime. The CAR community in Congo numbers 2,000, according to reliable sources.

Rwanda

Clemency To Be Given to Those Who Lay Down Arms

EA1503152591 Kigali Domestic Service
in Kinyarwanda 1700 GMT 14 Mar 91

[Excerpts] Today Major General Juvenal Habyarimana, president of the Republic, visited the Armed Forces stationed in Ruhengeri and hailed their courage and patriotism in fighting for our country's integrity. He also asked all those who have been waging aggression against us to lay down their arms so that within 15 days everyone who wants to come home through Kinigi, Ruhengeri Prefecture, and Rwempasha, Mutara Region, can. Here is the president:

[Habyarimana] I came to visit Ruhengeri Prefecture to inform you once again that the Rwandan people are proud of you. Rwandans are proud of their Armed Forces wherever they are, at any border point, so my aim was not solely to visit the Ruhengeri sector but to tell the Rwandan Armed Forces that we support them and that Rwandans fully support them. [passage omitted]

I also came to address those who took up arms and who, since October, are still waging aggression against us—those who wrongly started the war, took up arms, and attacked Rwanda, despite seeing that they would gain nothing. After more than five months, the war has killed many people for no reason other than they were misled by those thirsty for power. I believe that now it is good to know the truth so I call on those who attacked Rwanda for whatever reason, wherever they are, and from wherever they come, to lay down their arms. All those who lay down their arms will be able to come into the country without any problem; in fact, Rwandans will welcome them. We shall welcome them with clemency.

To all those who get the message: Lay down your arms and abandon the path of perversion and hatred and take the path of dialogue. I ask those who wish to stop fighting to lay down their arms within 15 days and they will be allowed to enter the country. As I said before, they will be welcome and should fear nothing. In fact, I ask

humanitarian organizations to help us welcome all those who lay down their arms so they see that we respect our promises and human rights.

The other thing I promised is that any foreign troops who want to oversee the rebels' return are welcome. In fact they will receive those who lay down their arms and enter the country. We shall set aside places for them to enter. For Ruhengeri, those who lay down their arms will enter through Kinigi, Ruhengeri, while those who want to come through Mutara will enter through Rwempasha.

I ask all those who fought against Rwandans and who have realized that they have failed in their attempt to come through Kinigi. We shall station people to welcome them and show them that we keep our promises. They can be members of the Red Cross, foreign troops, or any other group who wants to do this and witness this. I also take the opportunity to call on other countries, mainly Uganda, to do everything possible to welcome all those who wish to lay down their arms and be pardoned in those countries.

This was what I had to tell you today. Two points: To greet you and tell you that the country is supporting you and asking Rwandans to strengthen their unity, and to call all those who attacked us to lay down their arms and return home.

RPF Leader on Proposal, Demands

LD1503235391 Paris International Service
in French 1230 GMT 15 Mar 91

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Yesterday evening the Rwandan head of state, President Habyarimana, proposed to the rebels to lay down their weapons. [passage omitted] Right after this announcement [correspondent] Monique Masse spoke to Alexis Kanyarengue, the president of the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF]. Listen to his reaction:

[Begin recording] [Kanyarengue] What does laying down weapons mean? It means showing quite simply that one is beaten, that one has nothing more to say. Now in our view we have raised an internal political problem, and this problem has to be negotiated between the government and the Patriotic Front. By taking up arms we wanted to attract international attention in such a way that there would be intervention in order to permit negotiations which might bring peace to the country, which could permit the reestablishment of human rights, which could also launch a multiparty system and thus democratization. [end recording]

[Announcer] In this context it is interesting to note what the Rwandan foreign minister said a few days ago when passing through the French capital. At the time [correspondent] Muriel Pomponne asked [Rwandan Foreign Minister] Casimir Bizimungu if the Kigali Government is demanding a cease-fire before any dialogue:

[Begin recording] The Rwandan Government would like a cease-fire to take effect immediately, as fast as

possible, but for dialogue...[changes thought] because obviously in order to have a cease-fire you have to have begun a dialogue, so the dialogue launches a cease-fire, and one continues the dialogue.

[Poniponne] And is everything negotiable?

[Bizimungu] The Rwandan Government is very open, everything is open to discussion, there are no taboo subjects. Everything can be discussed, but we must first be able to know exactly what the Front wants, and I would like to believe that this is the process which is under way today.

[Pomponne] Now let us look at the situation in the country. Can you tell us what stage the process of democratization in Rwanda has reached—because President Habyarimana had envisioned democratization and the advent of a multiparty system in this country based on a national charter published as early as last year?

[Bizimungu] Rwanda is continuing its work aimed at establishing a multiparty system, and we expect that within a sufficiently brief period of time—two months, three months at the most—we should be able to see the beginning of a multiparty system in Rwanda. As soon as the parties are established a forum should be set up permitting them to meet and to put their ideas together. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Rebels Reportedly Reject Offer

*EA1603111891 Kigali Domestic Service
in French 1800 GMT 15 Mar 91*

[Excerpts] The Government of Rwanda has offered a general amnesty to those who wish to lay down their arms and invited them to return home within 15 days. This was done by General Juvenal Habyarimana, the president of the Republic, during a visit to the Rwandan Armed Forces in Ruhengeri. Despite the multiplicity of goodwill gestures on the part of the Rwandan authorities, however, the rebels [inyenzi] remain totally deaf and seem mainly to prefer the pure and simple extermination of thousands of innocent people, as Jean-Francois Nsengiyunva tells us:

[Begin Nsengiyunva recording] [passage omitted] Blinded by their [words indistinct] blood and power, the officials of the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] do not want to hear about [word indistinct]. Mr. Alexis Kanyarengwe, who is the president of the RPF, talking through the microphone of Radio Internationale [as heard] this morning, rejected the amnesty offered by the president of the Republic of Rwanda, thereby preferring the path of arms and bloody [word indistinct] aimed at decimating the poor descendants of the Rwandan refugees who were forcibly recruited into the ranks of the RPF.

Without food, sick and hit by cold, they slowly die one by one without having shot a single round. It is clear that this is not a struggle for democracy or a return and integration of refugees which interest him but search for power by force. Realizing that the position of the government and people of Rwanda (?hate them) and that they can no longer take part in the democratic game by agreeing to confront the risk of the polls, they are now trying to prolong the war at all costs [word indistinct] to his combatants, without daring to take part in combat himself.

The international community should strongly condemn these inhuman schemes. It is also difficult to understand why broadcasting stations as liberal as RFI [Radio France International] continue broadcasting ideas as fascist as those of Kanyarengwe, who is losing credit.

It is also disconcerting that Lieutenant Pasteur Bizimungu dares to affirm on Zairian TV that the northern part of Ruhengeri, the prefecture in the north of the country, is in the hands of the RPF. Only yesterday, the president of the Republic and his entourage visited the area along the Rwandan-Ugandan border, in Cyanika. The RPF officials who side with misleading international opinion, today found themselves disarmed in their propaganda campaign. They persist in refusing to see reason by continuing to send thousands of innocents to their deaths. [end recording]

Ethiopia

EPRDF Rebels Say Mezezo 'Liberated' 15 Mar

EA1903103491 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic 0400 GMT 19 Mar 91

[Text] The heroic popular forces of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front [EPRDF] have liberated the town of Mezezo, by destroying four brigades of the 11th Division and two battalions of the (?Welwel) Brigade which were fortified on the Mezezo front. This offensive was carried out by the heroic popular EPRDF forces on 15 March. In this offensive 978 Dergue soldiers were killed, 952 wounded, and 600 captured. The remaining forces were routed in various directions.

In addition, four 122-mm artillery pieces, two ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, 12 82-mm mortars, two (?B10), 25 Bren machine guns, 15 rocket-propelled grenades, 927 rifles, 20 assorted pieces of radio communication equipment, 11 assorted vehicles, one [word indistinct], numerous BMs and artillery (?rounds), and other military materiel was seized. Four [word indistinct], two ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, and three vehicles were destroyed.

The inhabitants of the Mezezo area took part in this victorious battle. They also supplied water and food to our heroic forces. Residents of Mezezo and the surrounding areas welcomed our forces with great admiration and pleasure.

Afterwards, the Dergue's 12th, 21st, 91st and 502d Brigades attempted to recapture Mezezo town and its environs captured by our forces but they were repulsed by our forces 10 km away from Tarmaber.

Kenya

USSR Environment Minister Pays Official Visit

Meets Counterpart Mungai

EA1503140791 Nairobi KNA in English 1737 GMT 14 Mar 91

[Text] Nairobi, 14 Mar (KNA)—The minister for environment and natural resources, Dr. Njoroge Mungai, today asked the Soviet Union to open up more avenues for Kenyans to study ecology at higher institutions in USSR. The minister, who held talks with the visiting USSR state committee for environment protection minister, Nikolay N. Vorontsov, in his office, said Kenya was the only African country whose efforts to conserve the environment were done at the grassroot level.

Dr. Mungai named President Moi as a staunch campaigner of conserving environment, citing his tireless involvement in tree planting exercises and other measures to prevent soil erosion. He noted that the Soviet

Union has specialists in various fields whose knowledge and technology, especially on afforestation, could be transferred in the country through joint expedition. The minister hailed the existing cordial relations between the two countries and hoped that the same cooperation will grow from strength to strength.

Dr. Mungai appealed to developed countries to consider assisting poor nations with funds and technical know-how that would go a long way to protect the environment. He commended the Soviet Union for its continued support in conserving environment in the country. In reply, Mr. Vorontsov said his country was ready to cooperate with Kenya in various fields and would not at any time interfere with Kenya's internal affairs.

Denies Involvement in New Party

EA1503211691 Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English 15 Mar 91 p 2

[By George Munji]

[Excerpt] The USSR minister for environment protection, Mr. Nikolay Vorontsov, yesterday denied reports that his country was supporting a political party of a former vice-president, Oginga Odinga, announced to have formed a few weeks ago. He told his Kenyan counterpart, Dr. Njoroge Mungai, that the Soviet Union does not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

And the USSR ambassador to Kenya, Mr. Vladimir Kitayev, stated that it is the policy of his country's Department of Foreign Affairs not to interfere in the internal affairs of any country, adding: "We have our problems back home and you have your internal problems like anyone else and we cannot interfere with your internal affairs."

Dr. Mungai drew the attention of the Soviet minister to newspaper reports quoting a former Mombasa councillor Emmanuel Maitha, to the effect that he had been told by Odinga's agents that the Soviet Union was behind Odinga's National Democratic Party. [passage omitted]

Ethiopian Foreign Minister Arrives With Message

Comments on Rebels

EA1303213291 Nairobi KTN Television in English 1800 GMT 13 Mar 91

[Text] Ethiopian deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs, Tesfaye Dinka, said in Nairobi that renewed fighting in Ethiopia had been initiated by Eritrean rebels fighting the government. He said the rebels had not recognized the Washington talks for a lasting solution to the problems in Ethiopia. Tesfaye said the same thing had happened following the Nairobi meeting which the rebels disregarded.

The minister was speaking at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport on arrival from Addis Ababa with a special message for President Daniel arap Moi. He was met by the minister for labor, Philip Masinde.

[Begin Tesfaye recording] The American Government, which was mediating, thought that the plan was good and should be studied by all sides. And our hope was that the other side would be studying our proposals, and we would get back together to negotiate on the details of the proposals. However, almost immediately after our meeting in Washington this new offensive was started on several fronts. I can assure you, the Ethiopian people and the Ethiopian Army are resisting and countering this new offensive, while at the same time I can also reassure you that the Ethiopian Government is still committed to pursuing the peace process. So that's where we are, and to put it shortly, it's the rebels who have opened up the new offensive. [end recording]

Odinga Associates To Lose KANU Membership

EA1503135191 Nairobi DAILY NATION
in English 15 Mar 91 p 1

[Emman Omari article: "KANU Takes Action on Odinga Party Associates"]

[Excerpts] The KANU [Kenya African National Union] national secretary-general, Mr. Joseph Kamotho, yesterday said that all the KANU officials who have joined former vice-president Odinga Odinga's party would cease to be KANU officials immediately.

Mr. Ramathan Mohamed Mwamguno, a Mombasa businessman who appeared on Mr. Odinga's list as the treasurer of the National Democratic Party [NDP]—which was denied registration on Wednesday—ceases to be the vice-chairman of Mombasa's Likoni Ward. Mr. Kamotho, who is also the minister for transport and communications, said that the officials and anyone else who associated with the NDP would lose their places in KANU. [passage omitted]

Yesterday, Mr. Kamotho told a press conference that the officials, including the 1,000 if known, would lose their KANU membership. He also said such officials would not stand for any future election on a KANU ticket.

Mr. Odinga's list was as follows: chairman, Jaramogi Ajuma Odinga Odinga (businessman and farmer); vice-chairman, Mr. Francis Maina (Nairobi businessman); secretary-general, Mr. Salim Ndamwe (Kapenguria businessman); assistant secretary-general, Mr. Jonah Ougo Ochieng (former Bondo MP); treasurer, Mr. Ramadhan Mohamed Mwamguno (Mombasa businessman); national organising secretary, Mr. Samuel Kariuki Munyiri (Nairobi businessman); assistant national organising secretary, Mr. Michael Lobuin Nene (Kapenguria businessman).

Mr. Kamotho said that KANU is not going to maintain "double standards". He said that by deed, the people who appeared on the so-called NDP list had left KANU.

LSK Council Defends New Chairman Muite

EA1603142691 Nairobi THE STANDARD
in English 16 Mar 91 pp 1-2

[Article by Bakr Ogle: "LSK Council Defends Muite"]

[Excerpts] The Council of Law Society of Kenya (LSK) last night defended its chairman, Mr Paul Kibugi Muite, over widespread criticisms in his recent call for the registration of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga's planned political party. "We defend the right of expression. We see no legal basis for the unwarranted criticisms against him (Muite)," they said in a two-page statement, released to reporters after a meeting lasting more than three hours. The nine-member council met under the chairmanship of the vice-chairman, Mr Willy Munyoki Mutunga.

"The new council has no wish to be distracted from the purpose for which it was elected which include taking all necessary steps for the promotion and attainment of the rule of law, democracy and human rights," they stressed.

But the LSK Council promised to steer clear of politics in facing their obligations, but hastened to add, "however, some of the issues by their very way might appear political," quote as published]

Members of the LSK Council on their own behalf and on behalf of the members of the legal fraternity who elected them, expressed confidence and support for Mr Muite.

Those who attended last evening's first monthly meeting since last Saturday's [9 March] election were Mr G.B.M. Kariuki, Mr Wainaina Kagwe, Mr Joseph Juma of the Mombasa LSK branch, Mr Japheth Shamalla, Ms Martha Njoka, Mr Bernard Mbai, Mr Charles Ayako Nyachae and Mr Gervase Buluma Akhaabi.

Mr Muite himself did not participate in the proceedings to conform with a High Court injunction that restrained him from participating in LSK affairs as well as making political statements. The substantive suit will be heard on March 26th. [passage omitted]

At their meeting last night, the LSK Council said that they had considered the entire criticisms levelled against its chairman and members of the council.

"We note that the validity and propriety of the elections of the chairman and council are not an issue," they stated, pointing out that criticisms appear to have been precipitated by Mr Muite's address at the LSK annual dinner where he made it clear he was expressing his personal views.

Indeed, they went on, the chairman at the occasion espoused on his interpretations of the contentious Section 2 (A) of the Constitution of Kenya vis-a-vis Section 80 of the same Constitution.

Former Information Officer Charged With Sedition

*EA1403225291 Nairobi KNA in English 1730 GMT
14 Mar 91*

[Text] Nairobi, 14 March (KNA)—A former information officer with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Mr Joseph Njoroge Watoro, was today charged in a Nairobi court with three counts of sedition. The accused appeared before the Nairobi chief magistrate, Mr Omondi Tunya, who ordered that he be remanded in custody until 28 March when the case will be mentioned. He was however not required to plead as consent to prosecute him had not been obtained from the attorney-general.

Prosecuting, a senior state counsel Mr Horace Okumu told the court that the case will be consolidated with another pending before the same court in which the editor of the "NAIROBI LAW MONTHLY" magazine Mr Gitobu Imanyara is similarly charged with sedition.

Mr Watoro, who is unrepresented, is charged that on 19 February this year he falsely and maliciously published printed [as received] a seditious publication, namely an unreferenced letter addressed to the editor of the "NAIROBI LAW MONTHLY". The letter is alleged to have been published with the seditious intentions of bringing into hatred or contempt or to excite disaffection among the population of the country. The accused faces two other counts of printing two similar letters addressed to the same publication's editor.

In the second count, the letter is alleged to have been printed with the intention of raising discontent among the inhabitants of Kenya, while in the third count it is alleged to have been aimed at promoting feelings of ill-will or hostility between the different sections or classes of the population of Kenya.

Somalia

President Calls Relief Aid 'Matter of Urgency'

*EA1703132691 Mogadishu Domestic Service
in 1645 GMT 16 Mar 91*

[Report on speech by Ali Mahdi Mohamed, interim president of the Somali Republic, on the eve of Ramadan, 16 March in Mogadishu]

[Excerpts] Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, who was speaking through the mass media, first and foremost congratulated the people at the start of Ramadan, saying that the holy month is important to Muslims. The president prayed to God that this month would witness the Somali people becoming brothers and understanding each other. The acting president outlined the policies of the interim

government concerning peace, the holding of the conference with rebel groups, the need for international economic aid and Somalia's foreign relations, in particular its friendly relations with the world and especially with the countries of the Horn of Africa. [passage omitted]

Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed said that peace was the key to social life, without which economic and social development would be impossible. For this reason the president called on all Somali people to embark jointly on the preservation of peace, a quest which he said would best be begun at the family, neighbor, and district levels. Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed added that the law courts, police force, and other agencies dealing with peace would soon be functioning. He made it clear that anyone violating the law would be dealt with with an iron fist. He called on those forces charged with implementing law to shoulder their heavy responsibilities.

Speaking on the roles of the government and of the rebel groups' conference, the president said that, as had already been made clear, this government was a temporary one whose tasks were to appeal to the international community for emergency aid to Somalia, to organize the national conference, and to restore the system of government and solve problems of [word indistinct].

This conference is very important to the Somali people and, therefore, the interim government will strive to the best of its ability to ensure that the conference is held. Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed said. He expressed the hope, and said he was 100 percent sure, that the Somali people would know their own interests. He said the rebel groups were now continuing their (?secret) talks in preparation for the forthcoming national conference.

The president spoke at length on Somalia's foreign policy. He said Somalia is a nonaligned country which believes in peaceful coexistence and cooperation, adding that Somalia is also a member of the United Nations, OAU, Arab League, Islamic Conference, Nonaligned Movement, and others, and respects these organizations' rules and agreements. Speaking on relations and good neighborliness between the neighboring countries of the Horn of Africa, the president said it was his conviction that these relations should be based on respect for each country's independence and sovereignty. No country should interfere in the internal affairs of the other. He said peaceful coexistence and stability should be respected and force or war should not be employed as a means of solving crises in the region. He also urged cooperation among these countries.

The president thanked the government of the Republic of Djibouti and its people for their brotherly participation in solving the problems with which Somalia was faced, and for their appeal to the international community on behalf of Somalia.

He also thanked the Kenyan Government and people for the concern they had shown the Somali people, especially for extending their support to those Somali people

who fled to Kenya as refugees. Mr. Mahdi said, however, there were some Somali criminals from the collapsed regime, who had embezzled public funds and now lived in Kenya as refugees recognized by the Kenyan Government. He said these criminals were now carrying out conspiracies aimed at harming the stability and disturbing the peace of the Somali people. This activity, the president said, does not conform with the rules of accepting refugees, but would serve to blur the warm relations between the two countries and their people. Mr. Mahdi called on the Kenyan Government to resolve this situation, saying that Somalia's acting government was ready to take any initiative aimed at enhancing good neighborliness.

Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed said the same thanks are due to the president, government, and people of Ethiopia for their important assistance to the Somali people, particularly those who sought refuge in their country from Siad Barre's regime, which set out to destroy these people's settlements.

Speaking on the need for international aid, the president appealed to donor countries and agencies for emergency relief to help those affected during the war against the collapsed regime. He said that despite the existing urgent needs, Somalia had not yet received any aid which could alleviate the problems. He said the country was faced with food shortages and lack of medicine, fuel, and transport. He said that unless the world came to the assistance of Somalia many people would perish of starvation. He once again appealed to the international community, UN organizations, the OAU, Islamic Conference, and Arab League to provide Somalia with relief aid as a matter of urgency.

In conclusion, the president congratulated Muslims all over the world on the eve of Ramadan, and wished them prosperity and happiness during their fasting period.

News Agency Denies 'Fronts' Opposed to USC

*EA1603204691 Mogadishu Domestic Service
in Somali 1645 GMT 15 Mar 91*

[Text] A senior translator of the SOMALI NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY [SONNA] has described as a lie a statement made by a man called Mohamed Ismail Bari-Bari in an interview last night for the BBC. The interviewee told a contradictory story, saying that there were fronts composed of the Somali Salvation Democratic Front [SSDF], the Somali Patriotic Movement [SPM], and another front he named as the USS [expansion unknown] aligned to oppose the United Somalia Congress [USC]. This man said these fronts had captured Baraawe town.

The SONNA spokesman said the story was fabricated to serve particular aims and was tribally motivated. He added that the USC army is now continuing its search operations to flush out the remnants of the ousted regime of Mohamed Siad Barre, who were now desperately hiding in various places.

He said another issue that Mohamed Ismail Bari-Bari complained about was that the USC was massacring those who sought shelter in Kismaayo town, which the spokesman dubbed as an unfounded claim. The spokesman said if the massacre incidents had actually been taking place, then they were perpetrated by the self-styled generals, such as Morgan [Mohammad Said Hirsi, former defense minister], Gani Mohamed Hashi Gani, former second deputy agriculture minister], (Ciro), and others who destroyed Mogadishu, Hargeysa and other towns using heavy guns and artillery in an inhuman fashion. As a result, many innocent people have lost their lives and some survivors fled to Kismaayo, where they have been forcibly told to fight with the aim of seeing Kismaayo destroyed.

The spokesman said it was unfortunate that Ismail Bari-Bari claims he is one of the SSDF leaders, the pioneers of all Somali rebel groups. He said Mohamed Ismail Bari-Bari should have spoken out about what is good for the Somali people instead of associating himself with these self-styled generals, who committed gross crimes against the Somali people. He said these men were using the same clannish ploy of divide and rule applied by the crumbled regime.

In conclusion, the spokesman said the USC, which has been struggling for a long time, has now achieved its final goal of saving the Somali people from the problems they experienced for 21 years under the fascist regime. He said the USC has programs and policies based on the principles of uniting and bringing the Somali people together in order to attain stability and remove any obstacles that might divide society.

Tanzania

Kenyan President Arrives for Official Visit

Meets Mwinyi

*EA1303151191 Nairobi Domestic Service
in English 1000 GMT 13 Mar 91*

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi arrived in Dodoma shortly before 11 AM to a red carpet welcome by his host, President Ali Hassan Mwinyi of Tanzania. [passage omitted]

All along the route from the airport to Dodoma State House, the route was packed to capacity by residents of Dodoma to cheer the two presidents who drove in an open landrover. The two presidents later held official talks. President Moi is expected back in Nairobi shortly after 3 PM.

Discusses Cooperation, Rwanda, RSA

*EA1303172191 Nairobi KNA in English 1314 GMT
13 Mar 91*

[Text] Nairobi, 13 Mar (KNA)—His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi and President Ali Hassan Mwinyi

of Tanzania today held talks in Dodoma, central Tanzania, on a wide range of bilateral and regional issues. During the talks, the two presidents resolved to facilitate the settling of Kenyans who decide to live in Tanzania or become citizens of that country, and also of Tanzanians who wish to live in Kenya and become citizens.

The two heads of states also resolved to facilitate legal trade within border towns between the two countries. They said ways and means will be formulated to enable Kenyans and Tanzanians living along the common borders to buy commodities from each other without necessarily using foreign currency, provided that trade was within the legal framework. The two leaders also discussed how the two countries would cooperate on matters of electricity where they can conveniently benefit from each other's supply and other facilities.

During the talks the presidents also noted that the decision to cooperate in the tourism sector had now been initiated and tourists were already travelling from Kenya to Tanzania and vice-versa. They said they would like to see more tourism among the local people encouraged.

On South Africa, the two presidents said after the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa, the two countries will consider all South Africans as brothers and do business with them accordingly. The two also discussed the peace initiatives in Mozambique whose chairman is President Moi. [sentence as received]

Noting that they were committed to peace, the presidents said they would help in bringing about peace in Rwanda. President Moi emphasized that African problems had to be solved by Africans themselves and hoped that the dream of creating a united state of Africa would be realised in the foreseeable future.

He said the objectives of holding these bilateral talks regularly was to fulfill the wishes of the people of both countries to move even closer to one another. President Moi reiterated that these contacts should not be confined to leaders only but should also be practised by the common people, whom he said should feel at home in each other's country. He hoped that the style President Mwinyi and himself had adopted in bilateral cooperation will be emulated by wananchi [citizens].

President Moi thanked President Mwinyi, the government and the people of Tanzania, for their warm reception and hospitality accorded him and his delegation in Dodoma. He told President Mwinyi to feel free to visit any town in Kenya, even unofficially. President Mwinyi thanked President Moi and his delegation for going to Dodoma for talks, where bilateral issues and regional peace were stressed upon.

Uganda

Museveni Returns From European Parliament, Italy

Notes Arrests in Army

*EA1603133091 Kampala Domestic Service
in English 0400 GMT 16 Mar 91*

[Excerpt] President Yoweri Museveni is back from Strasbourg, France, where he addressed the European Parliament on Wednesday [13 March]. Addressing a press conference on arrival at Entebbe International Airport yesterday, the president disclosed that he asked Africa's friends in Europe to help the continent by supporting manufacturing industries and Africa's current efforts of making regional markets to stimulate production. Mr. Museveni said dependence on production of raw materials without engaging in manufacturing creates economic instability. He said during a stop-over in Rome, he discussed with the Italian premier, Mr. Giulio Andreotti, how Italy could assist Uganda's railway construction units in terms of funds to purchase earth-moving equipment as well as on supervision.

Commenting on the recent arrests in the Army, the president said that this is in pursuit of the vigilance against corruption. He said that the Army should not be corrupt, since it is the principal force in a transformation of society.

On the maintenance of peace in the country, Mr. Museveni said that the government has so far been flexible on talks with rebels' groups in the country. He said that the NRM [National Resistance Movement] Government is still willing to carry on talks with such groups which have legitimate objectives and just causes. He said there is no need for foreign mediators because they would not understand Uganda's problems.

On the high oil prices in the country, he clarified that the stock being used now was bought at high prices, adding that the prices will go down as new stocks are bought in since oil is becoming cheaper on the world market. [passage omitted]

European Parliament Visit Reportage

WA1503154791

For reportage on the visit by President Yoweri Museveni to Strasbourg, France, to address the European Parliament, please see the International Affairs section of the 15 March West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Reportage on Visit to Italy

WA1803201591

For reportage on the visit by President Yoweri Museveni to Italy, including reports on his talks with Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, please see the Italy & Vatican City section of the 18 March West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Rightwinger, Yengeni Trialists Indemnified

MB1903052091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2247 GMT 18 Mar 91

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 18 SAPA—State President F.W. de Klerk granted unconditional indemnity to six Yengeni terrorism trialists and rightwing Orde Boerevolk [Order of the Boer People—OB] leader Mr Piet "Skiet" [trigger-happy] Rudolph late Monday [18 March] night.

A further 31 prisoners were granted remission of sentences of up to almost seven years and special amnesty was granted to two other people who have already served substantial portions of their life sentences. Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee announced in a statement. Mr Coetsee said the prisoners, incarcerated on Robben Island and in Pretoria, would be released within days and "were part of the process of the implementation of paragraph 2 of the Pretoria Minute which related to indemnity and release in a phased manner". The releases announced on Monday night would bring the number of convicted prisoners released "and who may be described as political prisoners" to a total of 310, the statement said.

Mr Coetsee emphasised a statement by President de Klerk which said: "Conflict must end. Secret agendas must be scrapped. Let bygones be bygones. Let us forget real or imagined injustices of the past and create a new future for our children, free of mistrust, prejudice and hatred and domination".

The six Yengeni trialists are Mr Tony Sitebiso Yengeni, his wife Mrs Lumka Elizabeth Yengeni, Miss Jennifer Ann Schreiner, Mr Michael Mzimkhulu Lumbambo, Mr Mabutho Richmond Nduke and Mr Wellington Monyamelu Mkwandla. The trial ran for more than three years and originally involved 13 people.

The six were indemnified for the following actions (all charges they faced in the Cape Town Supreme Court):

- The theft of a car with the intention to use it for a car bomb explosion.
- Illegal possession of firearms and explosive devices.
- The detonating of a car bomb in the parking area of Castle Court in Cape Town on July 20, 1987.
- The detonating of two explosive devices at D.F. Malan Airport on July 21 and 22, 1987.
- Conspiring to detonate several other explosive devices.

The indemnity in respect of Mr Rudolph was also based on actions on which he was to stand trial in the Johannesburg regional court:

- The theft of arms and ammunition from the headquarters of the South African Air Force in Pretoria.
- Setting and detonating of an explosive device at Melrose House in Pretoria on May 23, 1990.
- Detonating an explosive device at the offices of the Food and Allied Workers Union on May 26 last year.

—The detonating of an explosive device at the offices of the National Party [NP] in Auckland Park on June 22 last year.

—The detonating of an explosive at the offices of the NP in Roodepoort on June 22 last year.

—The detonating of an explosive at the offices of the BEELD newspaper on September 22 last year.

"Although the charges reflect serious offences, it should be pointed out that in spite of the fact that damages were caused to government and private property during the course of the offences, no serious bodily injuries were sustained by any person," Mr Coetsee said.

Other prisoners to be released in terms of paragraph two of the Pretoria Minute are Mr Carl G. Niehaus (convicted of ANC [African National Congress]-related activities), S.F. Mkhonta, P.M. Williams, S.G.L. Malamba, R.M. Dumisa, F.K. Morule, S.N. Maphumulo, K.D. Mkhawamubi, D. Hlongwane, W.S. Makhathini, M.B. Mokgosi, P. Ngqungwana, Z.E. Mazantsana, G.P. Ramahlo, A. Pule, S.G. Sizane, Z.M. Dikiza, H.D. Dipitse, E.S. Mahlobo, G.M. Mabengeza, P.M. Sekopo, Z.A. Molotsi, O.B. Nqubelani, S.M. Dlomo, N.S. Seboge, J. Ngqondela, E.B.V. Mthobeni, M.A. Dlomo, J.M. Molefe, T.P. Ngcobo, and J.T. Maja.

The life term prisoners who were granted special amnesty, Mr V.J. Nene and Mr M.N. Meyiwa, were apparently charged alongside ANC Natal leader Mr Harry Gwala. Mr Nene had earlier been arrested at the age of 16 and served a 10-year sentence between 1964 to 1974. He was again arrested in 1975 and sentenced to life imprisonment.

The unconditional indemnity granted to Mr Rudolph was welcomed by Mr Rudolph's lawyer, Mr Jack Nel, Boerestaad [Boer Homeland] Party leader Mr Robert van Tonder and the OB's acting deputy leader, Mr Coen Vermaak.

Rightwing Officials Comment

MB1903075491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2148 GMT 18 Mar 91

[By Ada Stuijt]

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 18 SAPA—The unconditional indemnity granted to Orde Boerevolk [Order of the Boer People—OB] leader Piet Rudolph, announced late on Monday [18 March] night by Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee, was welcomed by Mr Rudolph's lawyer, Mr Jack Nel.

His sentiments were echoed by the leader of Boerestaad [Boer Homeland] Party, Mr Robert van Tonder, and the OB's acting deputy leader Mr Coen Vermaak. However, they were "puzzled" and "deeply concerned" that similar indemnity had not been granted to the ordinary members of the Orde Boerevolk who were still in detention. "If you release the chief induna [chief] who masterminded the deeds for which indemnity has now been

granted, you should most certainly also grant indemnity to his followers at the same time," Mr Nel noted.

Mr Brian Rudolph, a son of the OB leader, said the family had not yet been informed of the indemnity—and until he saw the document which would release his father from detention with his own eyes, he did not want to comment. "This incident is so typical of this government, which notified the news media first instead of the family," Mr Rudolph Jun said.

Mr van Tonder welcomed Mr Rudolph's release "with great joy". "Piet is the first Boer which is released as opposed to at least a thousand ANC's [African National Congress]. The government, which thus far maintained a hard attitude towards the Boer freedom fighters, now has given recognition to the Boer's freedom struggle," he said. He called on the government to "release all the other Boer freedom fighters who are still in detention or awaiting trial".

Mr Vermaak was pleased with news of Mr Rudolph's release—but equally concerned about the other rightwingers who were still in detention. He said it would be difficult to predict at this moment whether Mr Rudolph would continue his political struggle. "He will be suffering from Section 29 stress for at least three weeks, and will not be able to make any value judgments for quite a while," Mr Vermaak said. "In any case, we believe that the Orde Boerevolk will soon be dissolved by Mr Rudolph," Mr Vermaak said. He said at least nine other members of the Orde Boerevolk were still in detention awaiting trial—and all had also applied for amnesty.

Rudolph Released From Prison

MB1903090691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0844 GMT 19 Mar 91

[Text] Pretoria March 19 SAPA—The deputy leader of the Orde Boerevolk [Order of the Boer People], Mr Piet Rudolph, has been released.

SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported on Tuesday [19 March] a spokesman for the Department of Correctional Services confirmed on Tuesday morning that Mr Rudolph was released from Pretoria Central Prison on Monday night after unconditional indemnity was granted to him and the six accused in the Yengeni trial in Cape Town.

The indemnity was granted in terms of the Pretoria Minute agreement between the government and the ANC [African National Congress].

No further details are known about Mr Rudolph's activities. Unconfirmed reports say he is staying with relatives, the radio said.

ANC Comments on Rudolph Release

MB1903111891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1044 GMT 19 Mar 91

[Text] Johannesburg March 19 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress] on Tuesday [19 March] welcomed the release of political prisoners, but went on to express concern at the sluggish pace of the process since the agreement with the government on the release programme.

The organisation said it had also noted the alacrity with which the release of rightwinger, Piet "Skiet" [trigger-happy] Rudolph, had taken place and the speed with which the government had acted with regard to indemnity and release of rightwingers. "This has taken place despite the fact that these forces have clearly stated their intention to derail the peace process. "The African National Congress calls for the immediate and unconditional release of all remaining political prisoners, and expects the Pretoria government to act speedily to implement this process," the organisation said.

Further Reportage on Continuing Alexandra Unrest

Hostel Raid Carried Out

MB1603054591 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0315 GMT 16 Mar 91

[Text] Johannesburg March 16 SAPA—Police and the SA [South African] Defence Force [SADF] late on Friday [15 March] night raided the number one men's hostel in Alexandra, north of Johannesburg, and confiscated a large assortment of weapons, as well as several rounds of ammunition, police confirmed.

No one was arrested, said police spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman. He said 250 SAP [South African Police] and SADF members had searched the hostel for about 45 minutes at 11.10 PM on Friday night, as part of a crime prevention action. The hostel was the focal point of bloody clashes between African National Congress (ANC) and Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) supporters last weekend.

Police seized among others sharpened iron rods, so-called "chopknives", pangas [long knives] and several rounds of live ammunition, Capt Opperman said. "Many rooms in the complex, which can house about 3,000 residents, were in disarray - evidence of the latest fighting in and around the hostel," he added. He said residents had claimed that many inmates had left the hostel in fear of possible renewed fighting - some of whom had sought refuge with friends or family elsewhere. He alleged residents had expressed their satisfaction with the presence of the security forces in the strife-torn township. "Some of the residents of the hostel said that they would not mind the police raiding the hostel every evening because it will 'stop the groups from attacking one another'".

Capt Opperman stressed that it was the police's function to maintain law and order and to protect the lives and

property of Alexandra residents. "We really would like to see calm and stability return to the township," he said.

He confirmed the operation was conducted by the SA Police's operational unit, supported by certain SADF units.

ANC Rally Request Turned Down

*MB1603152091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1511 GMT 16 Mar 91*

[By Andrew Lefoka]

[Text] Johannesburg March 16 SAPA—Police confirmed on Saturday that an application by the Alexandra branch of the ANC [African National Congress] for a rally to be held in the township on Saturday was turned down this week.

Witwatersrand Police Liaison Officer, Capt Henriette Bester, told SAPA that the application was not approved by the magistrate. Police also objected to the rally being staged because the township had been declared an unrest area, she said. "Police usually are asked to comment, and in this instance they objected because the township had been declared an unrest area."

Capt Bester added the application was also turned down because of the prevailing tension between the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] and the ANC.

ANC Chairman Popo Molefe said the rally was planned to report back to residents on peace initiatives between the IFP and ANC in the township. It was also to discuss ways and means of identifying and releasing victims of recent violence to families.

Asked why the IFP's Sunday rally in Alexandra had been allowed, Capt Bester said the IFP had made its application weeks before the unrest started in the township, and that it was approved by the magistrate before the unrest started. "The ANC only applied on March 14."

On Mr Molefe's comments that the organisation had been unable to secure commitment from the police to ensure that the IFP supporters and members attending the Sunday's rally were disarmed, Capt Bester referred to Friday night's security forces' operation at the Number One men's hostel in Alexandra, in which a large number of weapons were confiscated. Capt Bester also pointed out that police would monitor the IFP rally.

Asked why permission for the IFP rally could not be reversed in the light of violence that later prevailed in Alexandra, she suggested that the magistrate could perhaps respond to that question.

ANC Alleges Inkatha Planning Attack

*MB1603163091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1623 GMT 16 Mar 91*

[By Andrew Lefoka]

[Text] Johannesburg March 16 SAPA—The Alexandra branch of the ANC [African National Congress] said on

Friday afternoon [as received] it would contact Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok to intervene in an attempt to have a rally by the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] on Sunday in Alexandra stopped.

An ANC spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the organisation would contact Mr Vlok through a senior ANC official. He said the organisation would take this step because of the violent situation in Alexandra. "We are dealing with human lives here," he said.

The IFP said on Saturday that it would hold a rally in the township on Sunday. Police said permission for the IFP rally was given weeks ago before the unrest started in the township.

The spokesman added three people entered a local school in Alexandra on Saturday and fired shots with AK-47 rifle at a church housing people displaced by recent violence in the township. No injuries were reported.

The spokesman said this information was given to the police in Alexandra. Asked for comment, Witwatersrand Police Liaison Officer Capt Henriette Bester said a person fired two shots in the air with AK-47 rifle on Saturday in Alexandra. Police picked up spent cartridges and no arrests were made.

The ANC spokesman also said the organisation had learnt from reliable sources that a meeting was held on Friday night in Highpoint, Johannesburg, by alleged Inkatha members, where a plan was made to launch an attack in the township on Sunday at 2AM. The ANC said they had reported the allegations to the police.

Capt Bester said: "If the information was reported, police would definitely act on that information."

The IFP could not immediately be reached for comment on the allegations.

Residents Fear Attack, Flee

*MB1603182291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1728 GMT 16 Mar 91*

[By Raphael Banda]

[Text] Johannesburg March 16 SAPA—Residents of Alexandra township, north of Johannesburg, were reported to be fleeing from their homes on Saturday, as fears mounted of an alleged imminent attack on the township.

Mr Popo Molefe, regional chairman of the African National Congress (ANC), told SAPA the attackers were planning to launch the attack at dawn, hours before a planned Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] rally in the strife-torn township. "We have information that certain warlords who are believed to be Inkatha members held a meeting (in Hillbrow) where an attack in Alexandra was discussed and strategy formulated," he said.

Unknown gunmen on Saturday opened fire at a church where refugees of last weekend violence in the township have taken sanctuary, a local official of the ANC said. But police said the attacker fired in the air. No one was reported injured in the incident.

"We are very much worried about these developments because already there is a state of panic and fear in Alexandra. Residents of Alexandra have begun to leave the township," Mr Molefe said.

Attempts to obtain comment from IFP spokesmen were fruitless, but police spokeswoman Capt Henriette Bester said "police would definitely act" on any information given to the authorities.

And Capt Craig Kotze, Law and Order Ministry spokesman said "we will do everything in our power to prevent the violence."

But Mr Molefe charged the security forces were not moving to prevent the breakout of violence in the township where more than 50 people died in clashes last weekend. "We are deeply worried that despite these developments there is no evidence of decisive action on the part of the security forces to prevent further bloodshed," he said. Mr Molefe said the ANC had approached Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok to intervene and cancel the planned Inkatha rally. The ANC was also engaged in frantic efforts to persuade the IFP to postpone the public meeting, he added.

But the ANC, its youth wing, the Alexandra Civic Organisation and other affiliates met on Saturday to discuss the rally and to find ways of preventing violence, he said. "We would suggest to Inkatha that in addition to their appeals for peace, they should consider postponing this rally and allow for a further joint meeting between the ANC and IFP to consider a joint peace rally in Alexandra," he said. "There has to be a joint monitoring of the rally in the event it proceeds," he added. Mr Molefe said his organisation had information that people who would launch the attack were presently in factories around Alexandra.

Inkatha information officer Susan Vos said talk of the attack was "inflammatory and dangerous." She added that the rally on Sunday was called to foster peace in Alexandra.

IFP Official Addresses Rally

MB1703164091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1558 GMT 17 Mar 91

[Text] Johannesburg March 17 SAPA—A renewed call for peace and political tolerance amid another outbreak of violence in Alexandra dominated a speech by a senior Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] official at a rally in the township on Sunday.

Mr V.B. Ndlovu, a kwaZulu MP [member of Parliament] and member of IFP's Central Committee, was addressing several thousand red-headbanded Inkatha supporters, armed with sticks and pangas, in Alexandra.

He said the rally had taken place as "peace should prevail and we really need a stable community".

Mr Ndlovu called for an end to the violence which has claimed over 50 lives in the north Johannesburg township over the past week. He reiterated the peace agreement signed between the ANC [African National Congress] and IFP urging supporters of both parties to work towards peace and rid themselves of hatred for one another. The IFP still stood by the agreement, signed in January this year, he added. "There must be tolerance in everything we do. We must learn to respect one another. We must learn to appreciate other people's views," Mr Ndlovu said.

6 Die in Unrest; Security Tightened

MB1703180691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1731 GMT 17 Mar 91

[By Raphael Banda]

[Text] Johannesburg March 17 SAPA—At least six people were killed in Johannesburg's Alexandra township on Sunday, as police and troops tightened security in the area amid fears that renewed violence would erupt.

Police spokeswoman Capt Henriette Bester said five people were hacked to death and one shot dead since Sunday morning. She did not give the identities of the victims, and did not say who had killed them.

Mr Obed Bapela, a spokesman for the Alexandra Civic Organisation [ACO], said [words indistinct] the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) were hacked and stabbed to death in the violence-torn township on Sunday. According to the ACO spokesman, they were killed by a crowd of about 100 after they fled from a minibus that came under attack near the Alexandra stadium. Members of the African National Congress (ANC) had gathered at the stadium in an attempt to prevent their opponents from using the stadium for their rally, he added. Mr Bapela, also a negotiator in recent talks aimed at bringing peace to the strife-torn township, said an unknown number of occupants of the minibus managed to escape in the vehicle.

As word spread of the killings, police cordoned off the area where the Inkatha supporters held their meeting, and escorted them out of the township when it ended. Later police allegedly fired tear gas to disperse a crowd gathered outside a shack that was burning in the township, Mr Bapela said. He did not know how the fire started.

Capt Bester said police were preparing a statement on events in Alexandra on Sunday. Mr Bapela added: "We don't know what will happen this evening."

Police and troops on Sunday mounted patrols in the tense township, still recovering from bloody fighting that erupted last Saturday. At least 48 people died in the clashes, reportedly between the ANC and Inkatha.

Mr Bapela said residents scattered on Sunday when Inkatha supporters, returning to their hostel, staged

mock attacks in the township streets. "They (hostel dwellers) are just peeping through windows and swearing at people passing by." Mr Bapela reported that a helicopter hovered over the township on Sunday evening.

The ANC on Saturday night alleged that Inkatha members had planned an attack in the township early on Sunday. As a result, residents fled their homes, while the ANC attempted to get the Inkatha rally postponed.

A week ago, the government declared Alexandra township an unrest area, with 9 PM to 4 AM curfew, in a bid to prevent the escalation of violence. Anti-apartheid groups, however, attacked the government move.

Police Commissioner on Situation

*MB1703184091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1818 GMT 17 Mar 91*

[By Andrew Lefoka]

[Text] Johannesburg March 17 SAPA—Swift action by security forces in Alexandra on Sunday prevented a possible bloodbath after an Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] supporter was killed during an IFP rally in the battle-scarred township.

Police said a total of six people were killed in the Johannesburg north township on Sunday between 6.25AM and 2PM. Witnesses put the number of Inkatha supporters killed during the rally at three. They said the trio apparently got lost in the township as they travelled to the IFP rally. A mob of township residents, who had gathered at a stadium further away from the rally, spotted the three, and hacked them to death, they said.

On hearing this, a group of IFP supporters left the rally to apparently invade the township to avenge the deaths. Armed security force members immediately took positions to prevent IFP supporters from moving deeper into the township. Tension heightened as enraged IFP supporters squared-up with members of the police and armed forces. The IFP supporters, waving crude weapons and crying war songs, threatened to break through lines of security forces.

Emotions also ran high after the rally ended, when security forces had to prevent IFP supporters on several occasions from moving into the township to apparently launch revenge attacks. Security forces took positions along different routes in the township as they escorted the IFP supporters out of the area. A police helicopter hovered overhead to monitor the exit.

Township residents scurried for shelter on several occasions at the sight of advancing IFP supporters.

One of the victims lay dead in the street next to the stadium. A red headband and several bricks lay next to the body, which was covered in blood. Security forces would not allow photographers to take pictures. Witwatersrand Police Commissioner Maj-Gen Gerrit Erasmus

told SAPA at the rally that the dead man was an Inkatha supporter, who had been hacked to death. Maj-Gen Erasmus did not know who had killed him. Although security forces had the situation under control, the death of the man could spark trouble, he said.

Asked by reporters why, in light of the violent and tense situation in the township, the rally was approved, Maj-Gen Erasmus said permission was granted 40 days ago before the current unrest in the area erupted. There was further controversy after a local magistrate last week refused to grant permission to the ANC [African National Congress] to hold a rally in Alexandra on Sunday. Asked why the ANC request had been turned down, Maj-Gen Erasmus said the two rallies could not be held on the same day. The ANC rally would be held next week, he added. Also asked about the carrying of weapons by IFP supporters, Maj-Gen Erasmus told reporters police had instructed the organisers of the rally to disarm the crowd.

The IFP supporters were ferried into the township in buses and dozens of minibuses, to join a fairly small group of supporters, who live in the area, for the rally. According to IFP officials, the rally was held to mourn their people killed in the recent violence in the township.

Death Toll Reaches 16

*MB1803063491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0524 GMT 18 Mar 91*

[Text] Johannesburg March 18 SAPA—The death-toll from Sunday's [17 March] violence on the Witwatersrand has risen to 16, with 10 people killed in Alexandra, police confirmed on Monday morning.

Six people died during fighting at the George Goch hostel near Jeppe, while seven were injured, according to police spokesman Maj Reg Crewe.

He said there had been no reports of renewed fighting at the hostel or at Alexandra.

A total of 49 people were admitted to the Alexandra Clinic between 11.40 AM and midnight, the Alexandra Health Centre early on Sunday. [sentence as received]

Forty people were treated for stab and panga [long knife] wounds and seven for bullet wounds. Two of the victims had been dead on arrival at the clinic.

ANC Involvement in Killings Denied

*MB1803173891 Umtata Capital Radio
in English 1500 GMT 18 Mar 91*

[Text] The Alexandra Branch of the ANC [African National Congress] says people who allegedly killed six Inkatha supporters in the township yesterday were not members of the ANC.

ANC chairman, Popo Molefe, says his organization had called on its members and on Alexandra residents to stay away from yesterday's Inkatha peace rally to avoid confrontation.

Molefe has suggested that people who had gathered at the Alexandra stadium were residents who did so out of fear that they might be attacked in their homes. He says the ANC does not take responsibility for the actions of people who are not its members.

It is believed that a total of six Inkatha supporters were killed in the township during yesterday's rally.

Minister Vlok To Meet Inkatha

*MB1903101691 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 19 Mar 91*

[Text] A spokesman for the minister of law and order says the real culprit of violence in Alexandra and other black towns is the belief that differences could be settled by an assegai or a petrol bomb.

He was reacting in Cape Town to a call by the chief minister of kwaZulu, Dr. Buthelezi, for the security forces to be withdrawn from Alexandra and replaced with a new, more comprehensive police and Defense Force presence. He said the latest incidents in which people had been killed did not reflect the attitude or capability of the security forces, but were an indication of the intolerance in this area.

The violence at Alexandra, and other residential areas, will be discussed by Mr. Vlok and a delegation of the Inkatha Freedom Party in Cape Town this afternoon.

IFP Denies Accord With ANC

*MB1903080091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2154 GMT 18 Mar 91*

[Text] Ulundi Mar 18 SAPA—The national chairman of the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), Dr Frank Mdlalose, on Monday [18 March] denied the IFP had agreed to cooperate with the African National Congress (ANC) to isolate the so-called "rooidoeke" [red headbands] in Reef townships, reports SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news.

Dr Mdlalose said in the kwaZulu Legislative Assembly the media had recently been asked by parties involved in peace talks not to twist statements made by leaders, and to avoid derogatory terms such as vigilantes or Zulu-based organisation.

At the recent Inkatha/ANC peace meeting at Alexandra the "rooidoeke" had not been identified as people responsible for waging a reign of terror, he said. The meeting had only agreed to identify criminals responsible for violence and to allow the police to deal with them, Dr Mdlalose added.

***Swedish Industry Preparing for Return**

*91AF0707A Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER
in Swedish 17 Feb 91 p A17*

[Commentary by Sven-Ivan Sundqvist: "New South Africa Attracts Sweden"; first paragraph is DAGENS NYHETER introduction]

[Text] Hibernators await the end of apartheid. Within a year or two, there will be a reversal in Sweden's sanctions policy against South Africa. Numerous signs indicate that the EC countries one after the other are relaxing their sanctions. This is true of Denmark, for example.

The apartheid system is cracking. In a short time there will be only a single apartheid law left. That will be the law on race registration. This is the law which defines South Africans as white, black, colored, or Indian. It is the law that enables the whites to exclude others from suffrage.

Sweden's minister in Pretoria, Ingemar Stjernberg, the first minister in many, many years, has been looking into the Swedish business community in South Africa and its circumstances. This is the first effort to inform the government about the Swedish-linked business community in the country.

There are five wholly Swedish-owned subsidiaries in South Africa. These are owned by Atlas Copco, Sandvik, Skega, SKF, and Svedala Industries.

Alfa-Laval's former South African subsidiary has been acquired by a South African organization controlled by the company employees.

The following Swedish businesses in the last two decades have shut down their operations in South Africa or else transferred them to local interests: Asea(ABB), Aga, Avesta, Boliden, Electrolux, Esab, Saab-Scania, SAS, Transatlantic, Tetra Pak, and Volvo.

Swedish businesses that 'hibernated' during apartheid and the sanctions have led a languishing and presumably not very profitable existence in South Africa.

Compliance With the Law

The sanctions, first in 1979 putting a ban on investment, then the law of 1985 with yet stricter bans on investment, and in 1987 the ban on trade, were, judging from interviews with Swedish business representatives in Johannesburg, obeyed to the letter of the law. This was also confirmed by the Swedish Board of Commerce's yearly reports to the government.

"In general, the compliance with the investment embargo laws, as far as may be ascertained from submitted statements, appears to be good," wrote the Board of Commerce in its yearly analysis of 8 October 1990.

Import from and export to South Africa has, in effect, ceased. The factor common to the large Swedish concerns in South Africa—Atlas Copco's subsidiary Interoc, Sandvik, and in part SKF—is the gigantic South African mining industry.

Both Sandvik and Fagersta established themselves in South Africa immediately after World War II when the extraction of gold began in earnest. The Swedish concerns wanted to be on hand to put into the market their rock-drilling products, particularly drilling rods and "drilling crowns." These products are used primarily for drilling holes in rockfaces, holes which are later charged with dynamite for dislodging gold, diamond, and platinum ore.

These firms hibernated during the sanctions. Now they are beginning to stir and reclaim the lost years.

Exemption for SKF

SKF of Goteborg was the first to apply to the government for authorization to invest 4.3 million rands (approx. 10 million kronor) in South Africa.

According to the application, dated 14 August 1990, the money will be used primarily for environmental, protective, safety, and security investments. The investments will not increase production capacity, said SKF. The government granted an exemption for these investments last month.

Nils Bonde is the new director for SKF, South Africa, since January 1990. Approximately 22 people work at the sales office in Johannesburg, the majority of whom are white, and 428 work at the factory in Uitenhage in southeast South Africa, more than half of whom are black or colored.

Early in the game, Nils Bonde called in his management team of around 25 people and made it clear that anyone who did not accept the fact that South Africa was moving toward a fully democratic society should seek employment elsewhere.

Bonde has also taken three other "black" steps that assuredly do not yet belong to everyday South Africa. First, he proposed and put through the election of a black business consultant, Mohale Mahanyele, to SKF's management team in South Africa. Second, a black personnel director has been named to the factory in Uitenhage. Third, 0.05 percent of business proceeds are to be set aside in an educational fund for blacks.

"Just now we find ourselves in a recession," said Bonde. "Nearly 35,000 have been laid off in the mining industry. I believe a further 10,000 are on the edge. There are no large investment projects that I know of in the mines. Auto sales are going down. All this means that in 1990 we stand from 25 to 30 percent below the budget. This applies to most of the firms I have spoken with."

What is causing the economic downturn?

"The weapons industry has slowed down as a result of the more peaceful relations with the border states. Inflation lies around 20 percent with high interest rates that deter investment as a consequence."

Strained atmosphere.

The atmosphere in the factory in Uitenhage is one of tense foreboding, according to Bonde. Nothing is happening from the investment side. Maintenance is severely neglected. The ban on investments has taken its toll. Some products have lost their competitiveness and have been edged out by Japanese and German competitors.

The sanctions have put a series of restrictions on SKF. Designs cannot be ordered from Goteborg. No deliveries of products manufactured in Sweden can be brought in, even indirectly via other SKF subsidiaries. An outmoded typewriter can not be replaced. Machines are repaired and re-repaired.

SKF's profits in South Africa this year stand about 230 million kronor, approximately half of which involves imported products while the other half consists of the value of the production in Uitenhage. Earnings before taxes are in the 10 to 20 million kronor range.

Atlas Copco has in South Africa a wholly owned company, Interoc, for rock drilling equipment and a 22-percent interest in Delfos & Atlas Copco (Pty) Ltd.

On His Own

Up until 1990, the colorful managing director of Delfos & Atlas Copco—he was moved up to become chairman—was the Italian, Mario Pellegrino. He has a long history worldwide in the Atlas Copco concern (among other things with Peter Wallenberg during his time in the Belgian Congo).

When Sweden decided to choke off South Africa, we determined to get along on our own, said Pellegrino. Atlas Copco in Nacka bore the management responsibility and we in the industrial leadership issued a unilateral declaration of independence vis-a-vis Sweden. Since then, we have stood on our own.

According to Pellegrino, the difference between the investment embargo of 1979 and of 1985 was that in 1985 the loopholes left (quite deliberately) in the 1979 law, particularly with regard to renting machinery and transferring technology, were closed.

Delfos & Atlas Copco manufactures drilling equipment, partly ordinary, simple handheld drilling machinery, partly more complicated drilling rigs. The troublesome part was the [manufacture of] large drilling rigs. The compressors for these drilling machines and drilling rigs were purchased primarily from the Atlas Copco daughter company in Antwerp, Belgium.

"We did not suffer especially from the sanctions," said Pellegrino. "Partly, because we foresaw that they were

coming and we had bought what we needed. Partly, because the mining market was not very strong, so that the need to expand was not there."

Interroc's managing director in South Africa is Rolf Soderman. He also withstood the snowstorm from Sweden. With 320 employees, profits stand in the range of 70 million rand.

Forever Being Repaired

Now production is being trimmed back and is virtually confined to basic drilling products. Drilling crowns are bought either from Sandviks factory in South Africa or from other local competitors.

Nor was Interroc hit especially hard by the Swedish sanctions.

"Market conditions have been poor. And machinery, it turns out, is forever being repaired," said Soderman.

Another Swedish-owned firm that hibernated is Sandvik. The managing director in South Africa is Tore Lundberg, formerly managing director for Fagersta, whose operation was sold some years ago to Atlas Copco and now in Sweden is called Uniroc and in South Africa, Interroc.

Sandvik's profits in South Africa lie in the range of 110 million rand with a good 500 employees, about 300 of them black.

"Things are worse now than they have ever been because of the poor economic climate," said Lundberg. "The price of gold has gone down by 30 percent, which strongly influences gold mining."

Lundberg believes that Sandvik is not affected to any appreciable extent by the sanctions, partly because of the bad market, partly because of the fact that the issuance of permits for replacement investment, like the regulations for leasing, initially were quite liberal. At the same time, managers confirm that their expenses for machinery repair have increased significantly.

Inferior Gold Ore

For South Africa things are extra difficult because gold in the long run is a bad business.

"In the 1970's, South Africa was responsible for 60 percent of the world's gold production, now its share is 37 percent."

South Africa produced 608 tons of gold in 1989, which yielded a foreign cash value on the order of 50 billion kronor.

Skega, a firm in the Incentive group, which is now owned by Swedish Asca, has a subsidiary in South Africa. The business is primarily a merchandizing firm which sells tire rubber for machinery used in the mining industry. Employees number 61. No products have been bought from Sweden in the last 20 years.

The firms that cleared out of South Africa did it for different reasons and in different ways.

Electrolux in the early 1970's had a relatively large operation in South Africa. But when the archbishop of that period, Olof Sundby, began to agitate against South African operations at Electrolux's annual stockholders meetings in the mid-1970's, it contributed to Hans Werthen's decision to close down the operations.

When Percy Barnevik took over Asca, the business held 45 percent of a former subsidiary in South Africa and had probably over 5 percent in loyal hands. When later ABB was founded, Percy Barnevik visited South Africa and wanted to discuss the situation. Asca and ABB's partners so angered Barnevik that he drew a line through South Africa and sold out most of ABB's remaining interests. Further, he let it be known that if anyone in the company was caught doing business in South Africa, he would be dismissed.

The other principal owner of ABB, the Swiss, Brown Boveri, manages the business in South Africa, but Barnevik has nothing to do with it.

Can Buy It Back

The scope of the Swedish-linked companies in South Africa is today relatively limited. But there is a potential for increase for a number of different reasons.

One is that some businesses which today officially are not Swedish can become so. For example, Alfa-Laval (Tetra Pak) has an option to buy back its former company from the organization that today owns the company. The same is true for Atlas Copco's option to enlarge its share of Delfos & Atlas Copco.

Another reason for an increased presence in the future is the likelihood that the sanctions will be terminated one day. Electrolux has informally sounded out the prospects for reinstating its trademark in South Africa. Scania's retail dealers in Botswana are interested in taking over Scania's more or less defunct repair workshops in Johannesburg, etc.

Some 17 years ago, I visited most of the Swedish firms in South Africa. There I encountered the whole spectrum from "welcome" to "unwelcome." This time it was completely different. None of the Swedish concerns displayed any unwillingness to receive DAGENS NYETER. On the contrary, they were all well disposed to display and describe their operation. Especially gratifying was the fact that Atlas Copco, which in 1974 attempted to throw me out, now evinced a completely open attitude when DAGENS NYETER came calling.

19 Mar Press Review of Current Issues, Problems
MB1903101591

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Reasons Why U.S. Did Not 'Finish Off' Husayn—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 18 March in its page 6 editorial says the United States "did not have the desire or the will to finish off Saddam." "The United States feared that if it ousted Saddam, a Shi'ite fundamentalist government would be installed with Iranian help, and together Iraq and Iran would be the dominant force in the Middle East. Another reason was that the United States did not want to be accused of putting in power a puppet regime, or of interfering in the internal affairs of the vanquished nation." There may also have been "anxieties over the anti-American feelings in the region." "President Bush, who had shown a ruthless ability to pursue the war without worrying about the damage he was inflicting, could have gone on until Saddam capitulated and was removed from office."

THE STAR

Criticism of Refusal for ANC Meeting in Alexandra 16 Mar—"By rejecting an ANC [African National Congress] application for permission to hold a meeting in Alexandra on Saturday [16 Mar], the authorities helped bring simmering tensions in the township to the boil again," notes Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 19 March in a page 16 editorial. The decision to turn down the application came after two events: "the outbreak of violence between Inkatha and ANC forces in Alexandra over the weekend of March 9-10 which claimed the lives of 44 people; and a peace meeting on March 14 at which Inkatha and ANC leaders undertook to urge their followers to end the violence. The ANC wanted to hold a meeting to convey the message to its followers." To turn down the ANC request was "at the very least, myopic."

BUSINESS DAY

Warning Against 'Physical Fight' for Land—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 19 March in a page 8 editorial says the Conservative Party's caucus statement in reaction to the government's white paper on land reforms said Afrikaners would be "prepared to sacrifice their lives 'for their land right'." Party leader Andries Treurnicht would "not say whether the methods to be used would involve violence. That would emerge later. The fact that there are no plans to deprive anyone of his rights, but merely to extend rights to all South Africans, is lost in the rhetoric." "Land is bound to be an issue central to a new dispensation—that much cannot be avoided. But leaders of all communities need to realise that a physical fight for it will destroy the country."

SOWETAN

Criticism of So-Called 'Peace' Rallies—"What angers us considerably is the tendency of political organisations to have rallies in the middle of violence and high tension," declares a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 19 March. The paper refers to the Inkatha rally in Alexandra following recent violence and killings in the township, saying "both the ANC and Inkatha know exactly how tense the areas are after violence." These organizations "cannot control their members, particularly people who have the scent of blood flaring in their noses." Therefore, to hold a "peace" rally is to "set a match to the highly combustible stuff simply lying around."

TRANSVALER

Extremist Demands for Land Restitution 'Absurd'—Referring to reaction to the government's proposals on land reforms, Johannesburg TRANSVALER in Afrikaans on 15 March in a page 8 editorial says: "It is absurd to suggest that years, decades, and centuries of history, should be erased for a return to the status quo then. It is an absurdity both white and black extremists are guilty of, when they call for land acquisition patterns of the past and demand restitution. The question is: how many years must one go back to? To 1948? Or to just before the Anglo-Boer war? Or to the time of Jan van Riebeeck?"

BEELD

South Africa Should Seek 'Reimbursement' for Walvis Bay—"Realistic" South Africans have to realize the time "is approaching for South Africa to hand over Walvis Bay," notes a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 18 March. South Africa already has a coastline "so long it can barely protect it. Protecting Walvis Bay only makes the task more difficult." South Africa received "very little" from its 75 years in that territory. On the other hand, it injected a great deal, "in the form of infrastructure," into Walvis Bay. South Africa should "negotiate reimbursement" for this.

RAPPORT

Apartheid Not To Blame for Violence—"In some circles 'apartheid' remains a convenient scapegoat, but there are signs the international community is becoming disenchanted with the violence and is no longer prepared to accept that years of apartheid are to blame for the violence," opines a page 20 editorial in Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans on 17 March. "Political leaders have to understand the moment of truth has dawned, and violence used as a means to intimidate opposition or to flex political muscle, is totally unacceptable in a civilized country. This also means black political parties need to clarify their peace policy and dismiss those who do not toe the party line—just as the National Party once had to do to its right wing."

Angola

UNITA's Savimbi Closes 7th Congress 17 Mar

MB1903084691 (?:landestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0518 GMT 19 Mar 91

[Speech by Jonas Savimbi, president of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, to the closing session of the Seventh UNITA Ordinary Congress at Kwame Nkrumah base on 17 March—recorded, in Portuguese with passage-by-passage translation into four vernacular languages; translated from the Portuguese]

[Text] Comrades in arms, dear comrades, delegates, and brothers:

I would like to state that historically the final goal of every military campaign is a military solution. Our protracted military struggle has fully met its goals. Now we can negotiate from a position of strength, and now is the time to negotiate. [applause]

I wish to thank all delegates for their dedication both during the plenary sessions and in the activities of the commissions. Without exception, your speeches emphasized the need for peace. Likewise, you also showed unequivocally that you want the right to vote.

Therefore, I regard your vote of confidence as support for a negotiated peace. It is true that this afternoon's vote was in support of UNITA by UNITA. The vote we are looking for is a vote for talks between UNITA and the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]. This is a vote based on study and experience. It's a true vote with which we will be able to determine the future of our country. This afternoon's vote... [changes thought] some of them wanted to take the black cockerel home.

It doesn't matter. We should take the black cockerel home. It is a memento of the Seventh Congress. However, tomorrow the black cockerel will have to stand at the ballot box as a show of UNITA's force against the MPLA. Do you understand? [Crowd answers "yes!"]

Now, I want to tell you what we have decided at the Seventh Congress. The first thing is to stop the war using all means; it is to gain peace and democracy in a short period—1991-92. [applause] During critical situations, the strong have the duty to save lives. [applause] UNITA is strong, both inside and outside Angola. Its duty is to save the lives of Angolans. [applause]

At this congress we also agreed that we will change from a military to a political outlook. We have also agreed that we will not sacrifice the gains of the past 25 years. [applause] I want to ask delegates: Is exile possible under present conditions? [Crowd answers "no!"] Is there anyone at this stage who can integrate FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] into FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola]? [Crowd

answers "no!"] Is there anyone at this stage who can integrate UNITA into the MPLA? [Crowd answers "no!"]

At this Seventh Congress we agreed to establish a sole national army. Isn't it true? [Crowd answers "yes!"] But we have also agreed that those who will not join that army won't be left in the cold. [applause] This congress has guaranteed that those who have put on the uniform of 24 January won't be abandoned. We urge fathers, mothers, and brothers who attended this congress to explain to their children and brothers that those who served in FALA's ranks will never be abandoned. [applause] This is a major problem because the MPLA will try to say that several FALA officers and soldiers will return to their villages. That's not true. Those with power cannot given in to [words indistinct]. [applause]

We agreed at the Seventh Congress that once the cease-fire is signed and an election date set, and once a joint political and military commission is established, the MPLA government will only be a caretaker government. [applause]

Likewise, the Seventh Congress agreed that UNITA will not accept funds from the MPLA government. UNITA will fund its own election campaign. [applause] The Seventh Congress also agreed that even after the cease-fire and the establishment of the joint political and military commission we will continue operating the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel. We will acquire a TV station because we cannot depend on the MPLA. [applause]

We have also agreed at the Seventh Ordinary Congress that we will hold a vote of confidence in the Portuguese mediator. The Seventh Congress has also agreed to encourage the United States and the USSR to continue their role in the Angolan peace and democratic process.

We have come from all corners of Angola to attend this congress. If I had made this statement in Portuguese, English, or French, I would have aroused greater enthusiasm in certain circles. However, I want to ask you: Who are we? [crowd answers "We are Angolans!"] Who rules our country? [crowd answers "We do!"] [applause]

By holding the Seventh Congress we presented a formal denial to international public opinion. Some used to say that UNITA is an Oshimbundu movement and that UNITA represents 30 percent of the people. What languages have you been listening to? [applause] Out of consideration to journalists and because we lack time, we haven't spoken in (?Chokwe), Ganguella, and other languages which were used during the plenary session. International public opinion has continually harassed UNITA. That's why we are immune to such attacks.

You voted, and there were four votes against. But even if there were 50 or 100 votes against, people abroad would have claimed that we don't see the difference. That's another lie, because we see the difference.

UNITA cannot forget that primary school tale about the donkey, the old man, and his grandson, whereby the

world just complains whether we are right or wrong. [applause] When Africa is weak, they say Africa is more weak than it really is.

When UNITA wins the elections and I form a democratic government, I only want one government. [applause] I want an Angola with better prospects. We want an Angola whose voice can be heard in the region and the world. We want an Angola which looks after its children, particularly the underprivileged. [applause]

This morning you saw a woman from northern Angola. She was crying. Didn't you see her? [Crowd answers "yes!"]

After elections, Angola will no longer be an oil well. It will be a nation with people and [words indistinct]. [applause] We have agreed to a policy of good-neighborliness. At this Seventh Congress we agreed to such a policy with all countries. However, this morning we also agreed that even with a policy of good-neighborliness we have to defend our interests.

Likewise, at the Seventh Congress we agreed to express our gratitude for the messages of solidarity we received from within and outside Angola, particularly the messages from U.S. President Bush and South African President de Klerk. [applause] We have also expressed our gratitude for the African friends who came from Togo, Ivory Coast, Zaire, and Morocco. Together we showed the same faith in the future of our continent. [applause] We have also expressed our gratitude to the representatives of Portuguese political parties. Likewise, we expressed our gratitude to the journalists who have come here to cover our congress.

We would like to apologize for any inconvenience. It's a matter of [words indistinct]. This Seventh Congress has also thanked the MPLA for lifting the embargo on the UN relief operations. [applause]

Finally, I wish to say a couple of words. Tomorrow, 18 March 1991, I will submit to the congress the membership of the political commission and the executive committee.

I have received all your letters. The more than 4,000 delegates present here have conveyed many of your letters expressing your concern about clothing, salt, soap, and medicines, and so on. As of tomorrow we will attend to all those needs. [applause]

With the Seventh Congress, the final phase of our march to Luanda has begun. [applause]

Explosion Destroys MPLA's Uige Headquarters

*MB1903095491 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0800 GMT 19 Mar 91*

[Text] A bomb exploded in Uige Province, destroying the MPLA's [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] headquarters. A military source cited by the Portuguese news agency LUSA said that the incident occurred on Sunday [17 March] night and that explosives made in South Africa were used.

Mozambique

Renamo Attacks Limpopo Corridor, Violates Accord

*MB1803181391 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1735 GMT 18 Mar 91*

[Text] In less than one week the armed bandits have attacked the Limpopo Corridor twice, thereby failing to observe the promises the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] chief had made to the United States.

In yet another attack on National Route 1, the Renamo armed bandits murdered nine people at Bobole at about 1200 [1000 GMT] today. Those people had been traveling in a truck from Gaza Province to the Mozambican capital. Bobole is 40 km from Maputo city and only a short distance from the Limpopo Corridor, which is covered by the Rome Accord signed by the Mozambican Government and Renamo. Under the terms of that accord, the Zimbabwean troops must be confined to the Beira and Limpopo Corridors.

Government, Renamo Agree To Resume Peace Talks

*MB1803195391 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Mar 91*

[Text] The Mozambican Government and Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] have decided to resume peace talks interrupted in January this year. This was revealed by Beira Archbishop Don Jaime Goncalves in Maputo on his return from Rome, where he attended a meeting of mediators in the Mozambique peace process.

Don Jaime Goncalves said that during the meeting in the Italian capital the mediators noted that the Mozambican Government and Renamo are interested in finding a negotiated solution as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, the Joint Commission established to monitor the agreement between the Mozambican Government and Renamo has accused Renamo and the Mozambican Government of violating the partial cease-fire agreement which confines Zimbabwean troops along the Beira and Limpopo corridors.

The Mozambican archbishop also said that the Joint Verification Commission will continue to support peace efforts undertaken by the Mozambican Government and Renamo.

In turn, in an interview with VOA, Mozambican rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama said that peace talks for Mozambique will begin early in April. The Mozambican leader said this when referring to his recent visit to Rome where he met with Jeffrey Davidow, U.S. assistant undersecretary of state for African affairs. On the occasion, the U.S. official called on Renamo to observe the partial cease-fire agreement and resume peace talks.

Talks between the Mozambican Government and Renamo were interrupted in January this year following a misunderstanding on the definition of the Beira and

Limpopo corridors, leading Renamo to mount a series of sabotage acts and attacks on civilian targets.

Namibia

Foreign Minister on UN Resolution on Walvis Bay

MB1503152891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1510 GMT 15 Mar 91

[By Carmen Honey]

[Text] Windhoek Mar 15 SAPA—The prompt reaction by the United Nations Security Council to events in the Gulf was a "very relevant point of reference" for Namibia, Foreign Affairs Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab said in Windhoek on Friday.

He was addressing the media on his return from Cape Town where Namibian and South African government delegations on Thursday held a first meeting on the disputed South African enclave of Walvis Bay and off-shore islands along the Namibian coast.

Mr Gurirab described the prompt and decisive action by the UN Security Council as a good development. "It is a very relevant point of reference for us, and I would think for the South Africans too," Mr Gurirab said.

In terms of United Nations Security Council Resolution 432 of 1978 Walvis Bay, historically South Africa's and geographically part of Namibia, and the islands must be reintegrated into the newly independent country.

"The UN is one of the pillars of our case," Mr Gurirab said. "The Security Council remains actively seized of this matter and has made a commitment in that resolution to assist the process to ensure the early reintegration of Walvis Bay and the off-shore islands." The minister described an early settlement as "very urgent" and one which would allow Namibia to concentrate on reconstruction and development. "Considering the future in a regional context, an early amicable solution to the Walvis Bay and off-shore islands issue would augur well for future cooperation, indeed for a peaceful and cooperative future," he said.

South Africa had said too it would like to live in peace and cooperate with other neighbours in a larger regional grouping. But first it would "have to clear its plate because its a full one" in terms of the internal situation, Mr Gurirab said. He described the Walvis Bay issue as a "remnant of apartheid" standing in the way of regional cooperation. It was "a matter of life and death to Namibia as a nation", he said. "We need soon as possible to get Walvis Bay and the off-shore islands back."

Mr Gurirab said the impression enjoyed by some diplomats that matters had possibly advanced further than the two sides had indicated was "a bit off the mark".

Although a date has not been set for the next round of talks, the foreign affairs minister said there was "readiness and willingness" on the part of both governments to continue the discussions started on Thursday.

18 Mar Press Review of Current Issues, Problems

MB1803115991

[Editorial Report]

TIMES OF NAMIBIA

Concern Over Namibian State of Mining—Windhoek TIMES OF NAMIBIA in English on 14 March in a page 2 editorial says the state of mining in Namibia is "cause for concern." "Such worries will not be allayed by ministerial enthusiasm on the discovery of new deposits, without any information on exploitation within a foreseeable future and specifications concerning the infrastructural cost needed to make imminent exploitation feasible." Government should take "certain precautions" to strengthen confidence in the mining sector. It should "attempt to convince the Mineworkers Union of Namibia not to press for unrealistic wages. This will only result in retrenchment of its members, and a source of employment may radically decrease."

19 Mar Press Review of Current Issues, Problems

MB1903101791

[Editorial Report]

THE NAMIBIAN

Namibians Hope for Walvis Bay Return—Gwen Lister writes in her "Political Perspective" column on page 6 of Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English on 15 March: "In terms of our constitution, Walvis Bay is an integral part of Namibia; in terms of a UN Security Council Resolution, Walvis is part of Namibia; in terms of national consensus, Walvis is part of Namibia; and in terms of even internal South African opinion, the majority believe they have no legal claim to the enclave." "Most Namibians are hoping it will be returned without further argument on March 21. And after all, we don't want to have to fight for it!"

TIMES OF NAMIBIA

Term 'Reconciliation' Used To Silence Disagreement—The page 2 editorial in Windhoek TIMES OF NAMIBIA in English on 15 March says South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, head Moses Garoeb, has been reported as saying "it is only by virtue of SWAPO's policy of reconciliation, that an opposition is allowed in Namibia." If that is the kind of thing which reconciliation enables us to say, "we are better off without that notion." "The way reconciliation is being bandied about, it is often impossible to escape the impression that it is used to silence disagreement and debate. It is the whip for self-flagellation, in order to show public penance." "One is often confronted with the idea that

only lip-service is paid to reconciliation, as nothing basically has changed in society. There cannot be reconciliation without restitution has become another cliché."

Reunion

Further on Riots During Visit of France's Rocard

Calm Reported 18 Mar

AB1803100691 Paris AFP in English 0950 GMT
18 Mar 91

[Text] Saint-Denis, Reunion, March 18 (AFP)—Calm returned Monday to the capital of the French island of Reunion, in the Indian Ocean, following rioting which broke out during a visit by French Prime Minister Michel Rocard. In the working-class Chaudron district, the center of the rioting, police were stationed outside looted shops, and overturned garbage cans and debris on the sidewalks bore witness to the unrest of the night before. Fifteen stores were sacked and eight damaged as sporadic clashes continued late into the night between security forces and groups of rioters. Thirteen people were arrested, seven of them minors.

Police said the unrest was on a smaller scale than similar riots February 24 and 25 when the police seizure of an independent television station sparked rioting which resulted in eight deaths and 350 million francs (70 million dollars) in damage. They indicated that in comparison with February's clashes, the rioters this time were "less numerous, less organized, less determined and younger."

Sunday's rioting began after demonstrations organized by officials of the independent station, Tele Free-DOM. The island's 26 percent unemployment rate is roughly three times as high as in metropolitan France.

Rocard on 'Social Discontent'

EA1803193391 Antananarivo Domestic Service
in Malagasy 1600 GMT 18 Mar 91

[Excerpt] Yesterday demonstrations continued on Reunion during French Prime Minister Michel Rocard's visit to the island. The French prime minister's scheduled itinerary from Saint-Denis International Airport to the city had to be modified. Clashes between demonstrators and Reunion security forces also took place.

In February, nine people died during demonstrations held in Reunion. Reports say that some Reunion islanders were not happy about the closure of an independent TV station, Tele Free DOM and demonstrated for its reopening. Yesterday French Prime Minister

Michel Rocard said in Reunion that the demonstrations did not come from trade unions or political parties but arose from social discontent. [passage omitted]

More Incidents as Rocard Departs

LD1803140191 Paris Domestic Service
in French 1200 GMT 18 Mar 91

[Excerpt] The prime minister's plane had barely taken off for Paris before further incidents took place at Saint Denis, Reunion. The tax office, a cinema, and cars were set on fire, and a post office was wrecked and looted, as well as about 10 shops. Some shots were fired here and there, but no one was seriously injured. About 50 arrests were made. To attempt to calm things down Gilbert Annette, the mayor of Saint Denis de la Reunion, has called on local elected representatives to join the police to form a sort of organized militia to restore order and calm. [passage omitted]

Demonstrators Teargassed

AB1803220291 Paris AFP in French 2111 GMT
18 Mar 91

[Text] Saint-Denis, Reunion, 18 Mar (AFP)—New incidents broke out tonight on Reunion Island, the French island in the Indian Ocean, where sporadic clashes between security forces and demonstrators took place last night. About midnight local time one of the districts of Saint-Denis, Reunion, the island's major city, was cordoned off by security forces. It was in the same Chaudron District that looting took place last night during French Prime Minister Michel Rocard's flash visit.

Three weeks ago, bloody clashes resulted in 11 dead after the equipment of a pirate television station, Tele Free DOM, was seized. This evening police shot tear gas and explosives to disperse about a hundred youths, most of them wearing handkerchiefs to hide their faces.

More Violence in Saint-Denis

AB1903111891 Paris AFP in English 1057 GMT
19 Mar 91

[Text] Saint-Denis-de-la-Reunion, March 19 (AFP)—French security forces clashed with some 200 demonstrators overnight in a new outbreak of violence in Saint Denis, the capital of Reunion island. Three shops were ransacked and one of them was set on fire and later a vehicle was set alight, police said. The incidents took place in the teeming impoverished areas of Les Camelias and the Chaudron where looting took place on Sunday [17 March] during a visit by French Prime Minister Michel Rocard. Three weeks ago, 11 people were killed in riots in the same area.

Liberia

NPFL 'Will not Relinquish its Territory'

AB1703203091 Gbarnga Radio ELBC
in English 1900 GMT 17 Mar 91

[Text] NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] Chairman Charles Gankay Taylor says the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] will not relinquish its territory until the people of Liberia speak out. The NPFL leader has vowed that never again will gross disrespect of human rights be tolerated in the Liberian society.

National Peace Conference Begins in Monrovia

Taylor Sends 'Proxy'

AB1503192291 London BBC World Service
in English 1709 GMT 15 Mar 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It looks as if the peace conference due to start today in the Liberian capital, Monrovia, is going to have a shaky start. All the warring factions were expected, along with other parties who have an interest in thrashing out a peaceful solution to Liberia's civil war and agreeing on a new interim government. Rebel leader Prince Johnson is set to go, as well as representatives of former President Doe's Armed Forces of Liberia. But today, Charles Taylor, leader of the main rebel group, called us up from his headquarters in Gbarnga. Robin White asked him whether this meant he decided not to go:

[Begin recording] [Taylor] No, I will not be there personally.

[White] Why is that?

[Taylor] Oh, there are concerns, Robin. The security situation deep in the heart of Monrovia is not conducive for me personally, but, however, I have sent in a proxy and I am in touch with my delegation by telephone, fax, and radio, so I will be in control; but my own personal security is at stake, so I decided to direct the conference from where I am.

[White] Are you not worried about the security of your lieutenants?

[Taylor] Well, once I am in the rear, I do not think anyone would want to take any chances with my lieutenants because if they do, they would be touching me, and it is not good to touch me in a wrong way.

[White] So what can this conference, do you think, achieve without you being there?

[Taylor] Well, I am there, Robin. Let us not say I am not there. We have run into some preliminary problems, even now, as the conference was officially opened at 12 noon. We have a situation where the secretary general [of the Economic Community of West African States],

Abass Bundu, invited what he called political parties and interest groups only from Monrovia. The rest of the country has not been invited to this conference, and I do not see how an all-Liberian conference can be effective without the rest of the country being invited. Abass Bundu has taken on a task of causing more confusion among the Liberian people than he really knows. And so I guess the first thing we ought to be considering today is trying to straighten up the problem of representation.

[White] It sounds as if you are trying to pack this conference with your supporters.

[Taylor] No, I am not trying to pack it with my supporters. What I am trying to do, Robin, as much as I have always done, is to make absolutely sure that the Liberian people are represented. The rules are open. There is no way that Great Britain can conduct elections for the premiership and only London is represented. We cannot have a conference where only people in Monrovia are represented to elect a president.

[White] Could I ask you if you are still a candidate for the interim president, or not?

[Taylor] By all means, I am a candidate for the interim president. Of course, Robin. Why should I not be?

[White] Because everybody else seems to think that the rules of the game are that you cannot be interim president.

[Taylor] Who made the rules?

[White] Well, everybody. All Liberians met and made these rules and everybody seems to agree that they are the rules. You are the only one who seems to have a different version of those rules.

[Taylor] That is not true, Robin. Twenty-three persons met. You know why there... [changes thought] The only reason why there is a national conference today, Robin, is because we did not agree with those rules in Banjul, and this is why we have to put a president into place now, because if those rules were acceptable, we would not be trying to elect an interim government.

[White] Why does it matter who is going to be interim president? After all, you can stand for president when the elections happen, you know, later on this year. Why does it matter then who is interim president? Why does that matter?

[Taylor] Yes, but if it does not matter, then why would somebody try to shut someone out before the process started? So it has to matter. It has to matter, Robin, because I have 90 percent plus of this country, and I have got hundreds of thousands of followers, and people that have committed their lives to me. And I am not just about to just lay over and play dead and permit their lives to go to ruin. [end recording]

NPFL Says 'Taylor Will Come'

AB1603174491 Paris AFP in French 1718 GMT
16 Mar 91

[Excerpts] Monrovia, 16 Nov (AFP)—The national conference for peace in Liberia was suspended today in Monrovia a few minutes after it had opened, and will resume this afternoon, Mr. Abass Bundu, executive secretary of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), announced.

"There are issues that still require consultations," he said, while information was circulating in the Liberian capital that Nigerian External Relations Minister Ike Nwachukwu had this morning met Charles Taylor, leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL, the main rebel group). This meeting was supposed to have taken place at Kakata, 72 km north of Monrovia, a town held by the NPFL. Mr. Taylor has not yet appeared at the conference, which started last night, for security reasons, according to him. Some members of the NPFL delegation stated, however, that Mr. Taylor actually plans to attend the conference. [passage omitted]

The Nigerian initiative has unpleasantly surprised ECOWAS authorities, whose peace plan in Liberia led to the deployment of ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group]. Sources close to the conference accused Mr. Nwachukwu of giving the rebel leader an opportunity to exploit divisions between the African states involved in the search for a solution to the Liberian conflict.

At the opening of the conference, Mr. Laveli Supuwood, "minister of justice" of the NPFL "government", said: "Taylor will come, but I do not know when." According to high-ranking sources in the interim government, the presence of Mr. Taylor at the conference is "vital" for its success.

The Gambian minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Omar Sey, said at the opening of the meeting that the conference's failure would be a "disaster".

3 Chairpersons Elected

AB1703163891 Monrovia Radio ELBC
in English 0900 GMT 17 Mar 91

[Text] The bishop of the Catholic Diocese in Monrovia, Michael Francis, Sheik Kafumba Konnah of the National Muslim Council of Liberia, and former Liberia's ambassador to the United States, Herbert Bo, have been elected co-chairpersons of the All-Liberian National Conference. The conference is being held at Unity Conference Center in Virginia outside Monrovia to settle Liberia's immediate political future following the holding of general elections in October.

According to the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, the three prominent Liberians were elected yesterday at the first sitting of the conference attended by political parties as well as interest and pressure groups. Earlier, the

chairman of the Ministerial Council of the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] Standing Committee, Mr. Omar Sey, who chaired the election, explained that the delay in beginning the conference yesterday was due to the intensive consultations held between the Ministerial Council and parties to the Liberian conflict. He explained that following these consultations, it was agreed that the three Liberians be elected by the conference to co-chair the deliberations.

Speaking on behalf of his colleagues, Bishop Francis thanked the conference for their preferment and assured that they would work to justify the confidence reposed in them. Bishop Francis then asked that the conference be adjourned until Monday to allow them work out all necessary modalities that would lead to the holding of a successful meeting.

ECOWAS' Bundu Confident

AB1703103291 Monrovia Radio ELBC
in English 0900 GMT 17 Mar 91

[Text] The executive secretary of the Economic Community of the West African States [ECOWAS], Dr. Abbas Bundu, says he is optimistic that the current all-Liberian conference will provide [words indistinct] it evolves. Speaking to journalists at the Conference Center yesterday, Dr. Bundu said the differences regarding the Interim Government will be resolved once and for all so that Liberians can embark on what he called the difficult road of reconstruction and rehabilitation of the country.

He said while the leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, Mr. Charles Taylor, was absent from the deliberations, his delegation was ready to fully participate in the conference.

Gambian President Sends Message

AB1703195891 Lagos Domestic Service
in English 1800 GMT 17 Mar 91

[Text] President Dawda Jawara of The Gambia has again called on all Liberians to join hands to rebuild the war-torn country. In a (?recorded) message to the opening of the all-Liberian conference on the political future of the country in Monrovia, President Jawara noted that a significant progress has been made in the implementation of the Liberian peace plan. He said although normalcy had not fully returned to the country, people were free to move about without much restrictions.

President Jawara, who is also the chairman of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], warned that any form of harassment or humiliation of the people would not be tolerated. He described as excellent the performance of the ECOWAS peace-keeping force in Liberia.

Earlier, the executive secretary of ECOWAS, Dr. Abass Bundu, expressed gratitude to member states for the

assistance being given to Liberia. Nigeria is being represented at the conference by the minister of external affairs, retired Major General Ike Nwachuku.

Taylor Assured of 'Personal Security'

*AB1903110491 Paris AFP in French 1947 GMT
18 Mar 91*

[Text] Lagos, 18 Mar (AFP)—Nigeria, which leads the West African peacekeeping force in Liberia, Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group [ECOMOG], has assured rebel leader Charles Taylor that his "personal security" would be guaranteed if he turned up in Monrovia to take part in the peace conference, Nigeria's official radio announced today.

The peace conference opened on Friday, 15 March but Charles Taylor, whose forces control most of the country, is yet to agree to go to Monrovia. Nigeria's minister of external relations, Major General Nwachukwu (Retired), told the radio that on Saturday, 16 March, he met with Charles Taylor at his Kakata base, 60 km north of Monrovia, and that he promised him that his security would be guaranteed if he agreed to go to the the Liberian capital.

The conference is to elect a new interim president to replace Amos Sawyer and a transitional government that will run the country until the holding of general elections in October this year.

Conference 'Stalls' 18 Mar

*AB1903095091 Paris AFP in English 0402 GMT
19 Mar 91*

[Text] Monrovia, March 19 (AFP)—Liberia's peace conference stalled on Monday following the publication of scathing comments against country's main armed faction by the Catholic archbishop chairing the discussions. The talks adjourned after brief morning and afternoon sessions.

Archbishop Michael Francis, the country's leading churchman, was elected to co-chair the conference Saturday [16 March]. In an article published in a local newspaper, THE TORCHLIGHT, he told rebel fighters to get out of Liberia and allow peace to prevail. "They tell us they are liberators, yet they kill us, maim us and destroy us. They tell us they are freedom fighters, yet they enslave us, chain us and destroy us. We appeal to those who are holding us ransom to leave us and go somewhere out of Liberia. Leave us free. Leave us and go. Leave us so that we can try and build our country which you have destroyed," he said.

The delegation of the main rebel leader, Charles Taylor, reacted strongly to Francis's comments. Asked if he was satisfied with the conference leadership, Taylor's delegation official Thomas Woewiyu said "of course not."

Representation has become a major issue at the conference, with delegations from Mr. Taylor's side saying they

are being excluded in favour of delegations from the Monrovia area under the control of the country's interim government headed by Amos Sawyer.

Mr. Taylor has never recognised Mr. Sawyer as president and disputes the legitimacy of the government which he says was imposed by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

A document brought by sources from Mr. Taylor's provisional capital in Gbarnga 95 miles north of Monrovia, said he might accept a three-man ruling council to run the country pending elections in 12 to 18-months time. But a senior member of his delegation said the proposal had not yet been submitted to the conference for consideration. The proposal, if adopted, might allow Mr. Taylor to withdraw gracefully from his contention that he has the right to be interim president.

The ECOWAS peace plan that provides the working basis for the conference specifies that there should be an interim president who is not a leader of any of the warring factions, and sets election for October of this year.

Conference To Resume 19 Mar

*AB1903144491 Monrovia Radio ELBC
in English 0900 GMT 19 Mar 91*

[Text] Delegates attending the all-Liberia conference are today continuing their deliberations at the Unity Conference Center on the outskirts of Monrovia. At today's session, participants will be discussing reports from the credentials and rules and regulations committees set up early this week. The issue of accreditation of participants is also expected to be high in today's session of the all-Liberia conference. The conference is being chaired by Catholic Archbishop Michael Francis; the chairman of the National Muslim Council of Liberia, Sheikh Kafumba Konneh; and a former Liberian ambassador to Great Britain [as heard], Mr. Herbert Bo.

Nigeria's Nwachukwu Meets Taylor, Johnson

*AB1903113291 Lagos International Service
in English 1030 GMT 19 Mar 91*

[From the press review]

[Text] Most Nigerian newspapers today carry reports on continued efforts to obtain peace and stability in Liberia. The NEW NIGERIAN says the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] leader, Charles Taylor, has charged Nigeria to take urgent steps to end the over one-year-old crisis in his country. The paper says that explaining his absence to journalists, Mr. Taylor said he had given authority to the NPFL delegation to act and make consultations with the leadership where they cannot act.

The CHAMPION reports that Nigeria's external affairs minister, Major General Ike Nwachukwu, paid an unscheduled visit to one of the main actors, Charles Taylor, in his Kakata domain to open further channel to

peace and reconstruction of war-ravaged Liberia. Gen. Nwachukwu is also reported by the paper to have been in the company of Dr. Abass Bundu as he visited INPFL [Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia] leader Prince Yormie Johnson at his home in Caldwell, (near) Monrovia. The NIGERIAN TRIBUNE says Prince Johnson said he was for peace, blaming earlier misunderstanding with interim President Dr. Amos Sawyer on those he called parties working underground.

NPFL Absence Halts 16 Mar Confidence Visits

AB1703182091 Monrovia Radio ELBC
in English 0900 GMT 17 Mar 91

[Text] Confidence visits to areas controlled by Liberia's former warring factions will continue today. These visits will take the liaison officers of the former warring factions, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], international relief organizations, and journalists to the Liberia-Sierra Leone border in Bo in Cape Mount.

The visits did not take place yesterday as planned due to the absence of the NPFL delegation.

Visits End 17 Mar

AB1803132691 Monrovia Radio ELBC
in English 0900 GMT 18 Mar 91

[Text] Confidence visits to areas controlled by Liberia's former warring factions have ended. Yesterday's visits were the last of a series of prescribed visits of liaison officers of the former warring parties, international relief organizations, and journalists to Bomi Hills in Bomi County and to the Liberia-Sierra Leonean border in Bo, Grand Cape Mount County.

The team received a rousing welcome by citizens and residents in villages and towns, while en route to Bomi Hills and Bo, chanting: We want peace; We want freedom; We want ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] as others [words indistinct] used traditional instruments and mask dances along the roadside to welcome the team. One of the (team's members) [words indistinct] told by people: We are tired and we are hungry.

The confidence visits, which started last Monday [11 March], was [as heard] aimed at building confidence in the three former warring factions as well as paving the way for the reopening of roads, to the free movement of people in the country.

NPFL Turns Back Relief Trucks, U.S. Diplomats

AB1503145091 Monrovia Radio ELBC
in English 0900 GMT 15 Mar 91

[Text] The National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] on Wednesday, [6 March] turned back three truckloads of relief supplies from areas under their control. The UN relief trucks were part of a representative convoy of

international relief organizations, liaison officers of the former warring factions, journalists, and ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] on a confidence visit to Kakata and Gbarnga, Bong County. At the Mount Barclay buffer zone, the defense spokesman of the NPFL, Mr. Tom Woewiyu, objected to having the UN relief trucks travel into Kakata and Gbarnga, saying that the visits were not intended for the distribution of relief food.

The UN special emergency relief organizations mandate in Liberia include expanding relief activities into all parts of the country, following the Liberian civil war. The United Nations, along with several international organizations, is currently engaged in relief activities in and around Monrovia.

Meanwhile, diplomats from the United States Embassy in Monrovia have been refused entry into areas controlled by the National Patriotic Front of Liberia. Two American diplomats, who were part of various representatives from international relief organizations, the former warring factions, journalists, and ECOMOG on confidence visits, were told by the defense spokesman of the NPFL, Mr. Tom Woewiyu, that they could not be allowed into NPFL-held areas of Kakata and Gbarnga. According to Mr. Woewiyu, this is not a diplomatic visit. The two American Embassy officials were turned back at the Mount Barclay buffer zone outside Monrovia. All the attempts by the diplomats to travel to Robertsfield and Harbel were also rejected by the NPFL authorities.

Togo

Eyadema Authorizes Forming Political Parties

AB1803180891 Paris AFP in English 1658 GMT
18 Mar 91

[Text] Lome, March 18 (AFP)—Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema agreed Monday to declare a general amnesty, authorize the formation of political parties, and organize a national conference on the country's political future, opposition sources said. The decision came during an unprecedented meeting with the leaders of several Togolese political and student opposition groups, a statement by the Front of Associations for Renewal (FAR) said. A "joint party committee" would be named by Gen. Eyadema and FAR representatives in order to determine "the ways and means of implementing these decisions", the statement said.

Monday's meeting came after several days of anti-government unrest. It was the first time in 23 years of one-party military rule that Gen. Eyadema has received representatives of the entire opposition, although on Sunday he had a meeting with the FAR leader, lawyer Yawo Agboyibo. After meeting Gen. Eyadema, Mr. Agboyibo urged students to call off a demonstration they had been planning to hold on Monday.

The capital was quiet and shops opened for business as usual. Soldiers were patrolling the streets, however, some of them armed with automatic weapons.

Concessions Reported

AB1803210091 Lome Domestic Service
in French 1900 GMT 18 Mar 91

[Text] Here is a communique which has just reached us [no details on who issued it, where, or when]:

The Front of Associations for Renewal, FAR, met the head of state today at 0900 at the Republic's Presidency. The FAR president told the head of state of the Front's concern over the following issues: student movements' grievances, general amnesty, immediately lifting the ban on parties, convening a national conference on issues of national life, and brutalities committed by security forces during demonstrations.

Following the discussions, the following conclusions were reached:

1. The head of state has accepted in principle to grant a general amnesty for all persons convicted or wanted for political offenses.
2. He said he has taken measures so that political parties can rapidly be created.
3. He consented to holding a national forum of dialogue.
4. The head of state agreed that the FAR should be associated with issues affecting national political life. It was agreed to create a joint party commission including personalities to be appointed by the head of state and FAR representatives. This joint party commission will be charged with proposing to the head of state recommendations on changes touching on national life, notably on technical modifications in a general amnesty, especially concerning those called terrorists by the head of state in his 8 January address; on the composition, functions, and how to hold the national forum of dialogue; and on how to adopt and implement political parties' charters.
5. The head of state agreed to organize a meeting at (?1000) tomorrow morning. It will be devoted specifically to students' grievances in which the minister of national education and scientific research, the minister of technical education and vocational training, the rector of the University of Benin, and delegations of student movements—Student Struggle Movement for Democracy, University Organization for the Fight for Democracy, Youth Reflection and Action Group for Democracy, and other associations.
6. The president of the Republic agreed that the National Commission on Human Rights will investigate the causes and extent of damages to people and to public and private property.
7. The head of state found the violence which took place during the demonstrations regrettable.

8. The FAR deplores the fact that the peaceful demonstrations turned violent.

Further Reportage on Student Clashes, Protests

Meeting Scheduled

AB1803181091 Paris AFP in French 1709 GMT
18 Mar 91

[Excerpt] Lome, 18 Mar (AFP)—[passage omitted] Tomorrow student movements will meet with the ministers of education and technical education. The National Commission on Human Rights (created by the authorities) will "investigate the causes and extent of damage caused to people and public and private property" following last Saturday's violence in Lome which left two dead—a 12-year-old boy and a policeman—as well as many wounded. Finally the "head of state found the violence during the demonstrations regrettable," and the Front of Associations for Renewal "deplores the fact that the demonstrations turned violent."

'Absolute Confusion' in Lome

AB1803182091 Paris AFP in French 1714 GMT
18 Mar 91

[Text] Lome, 18 Mar (AFP)—Tension was high late this afternoon in Lome, where absolute confusion prevailed by 1700 GMT, according to AFP journalists there. Demonstrators blocked certain streets, notably in Lomnava District between downtown and the airport, and set fire to car tires in the road, just as they did during last week's demonstrations. Fire trucks and an ambulance sped to the scene. Soldiers in fast moving jeeps sprayed tear gas on people on Boulevard Circulaire, apparently without any targets, because there were no demonstrations going on there.

The Togolese capital was still not aware that President Gnassingbe Eyadema and the Front of Associations for Renewal (FAR, opposition) had agreed on amnesty and a multiparty system.

2 More Deaths From 16 Mar Protest

AB1803194291 Paris AFP in French 1859 GMT
18 Mar 91

[Text] Lome, 18 Mar (AFP)—On 16 March, soldiers killed two men in a private house in Lome, and a third man is in a coma, the uncle of one of them told AFP today. Mr. Kodjo Donou, a 32-year-old apprentice driver, and Raphael Gbenade Edorh, a 19-year-old apprentice carpenter, had their skulls fractured after being beaten, according to Mr. Messah Edorh, the 35-year-old uncle of Raphael, specified. Mr. Amezian Adchou, an apprentice electrician, is in a coma after undergoing the same treatment. Mr. Edorh stated. These two new victims brings to four the number of people who died during that demonstration, which had been banned.

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